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POLL SHOWS PUBLIC VIEW CONFLICTS WITH GOVERNMENT FOREIGN AID POLICY

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 13 Oct 83 p 17

[Article by Alison Rea]

[Text] THE views of most Australians relate more closely to how non-government organisations handle aid than to the methods of the Government's foreign aid programs.

According to a recently published survey, 65 per cent of people believe Australia should help underdeveloped Third World countries develop, and that overseas aid should go to the poorest people.

Projection of these results suggests that of the 11.4 million Australians aged 14 and over, nearly 7.4 million favor overseas aid.

According to Community Aid Abroad, a look at Australia's bilateral project aid reveals only one of the top 10 recipient countries falls into the 31-strong Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development list of "least developed countries" -- the poorest countries.

CAD says that of a total of 56 countries receiving such aid from Australia, only 12 come into the list, and they receive less than 11 per cent of the total bilateral project aid project.

Papau New Guinea receives the bulk of the bilateral aid (38 per cent in 1981-82), and the Government has frequently made it clear that countries of

the South Pacific are the focus of its priorities.

While many of the countries and islands of the South Pacific are by no means well developed in Western industrial terms and are not rich, they cannot be considered to be among the world's poorest countries.

By contrast, most of the non-government organisations focus their attention on the poorer African countries and India.

The poll, commissioned by World Vision of Australia, was aimed at determining the Australian public's attitudes to overseas aid.

Criteria

Humanitarian reasons -- the belief that rich nations should help poor nations develop -- were given as the most important reasons for supporting overseas aid. Other important considerations included promoting world unity, peace and stability in the region.

It is pertinent to note that many governments, including Australia's, rate political, strategic and economic reasons high on their list of criteria for deciding which countries are worthy of their aid.

The poll found acceptance of

overseas aid was highest among people with a tertiary education, those with an annual income of \$20,000 and over and people in professional occupations.

Reasons for not supporting overseas aid focus on Australia's own problems. Two-thirds of the reasons given fell into this category, referring to people in need in Australia, to poverty here and to the needs of our pensioners.

The other reason mentioned with some frequency, but representing only 7 per cent of reasons given, was a doubt about whether aid got to the right people.

Australians further believe aid should not just go to the governments of Third World countries to distribute as they see fit. They believe it should be distributed in ways that ensure it will most effectively reach the people in greatest need, and should go to those governments that show a willingness and ability to help such people.

Voluntary agencies were selected first as a means of distributing aid by 15 per cent, and as one of the ways of distributing aid by 43 per cent of people in favor of overseas aid.

1984 INFLATION FORECAST ANALYZED ; THREAT SEEN

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 12 Oct 83 p 25

[Article by Peter Freeman]

[Text] Inflation is likely to remain high and threatens to entrench further Australia's uncompetitiveness as a trading nation, the chief economist with Hill Samuel Australia, Mr Will Buttrose, warned yesterday.

Commenting in the latest issue of the big merchant bank's Banking and Capital Markets Report, Mr Buttrose said Australia's real rate of inflation in 1984 was likely

to be 9.4 per cent — only slightly below the current level.

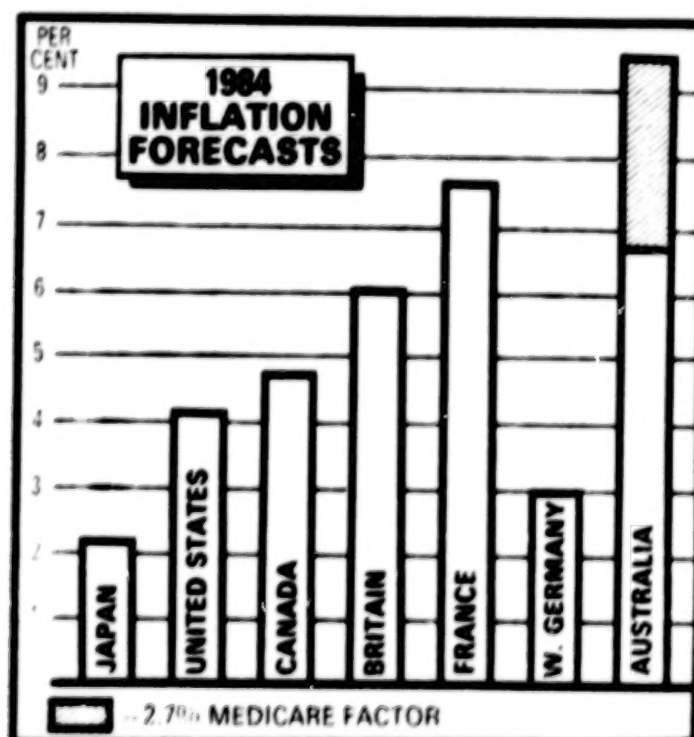
Such an inflation rate would, he said, compare unfavourably with Australia's trading partners, especially Japan, the United States and West Germany (see graph).

Mr Buttrose noted that, even when the elimination of health costs from the consumer price index due to Medicare is taken into account, this would only reduce Australia's inflation rate to 6.7 per cent.

"The removal of this cost will result in the CPI in March 1984 coming out at around zero and is the main reason why the June half year CPI increase will be limited to only about 1.5 per cent," he said.

"The test will be whether the unions will be happy to accept the consequences of such a statistical aberration and be content to accept a 1.5 per cent wage increase covering that six months period."

Mr Buttrose said it was important to appreciate that countries



such as the United States and Britain only brought their inflation rates down sharply after undergoing very severe monetary and fiscal policies.

"Wage increases during the last 12 to 18 months in these countries were substantially under the inflation rate and in several instances workers accepted wage cuts and in fact handed back previously won extra employee benefits.

"The question must be asked whether Australia has indeed sufficiently paid the penalties for previous excessive wage increases and whether we are truly in a position to return to full indexation.

"Australia is now the only country to have a full wage indexation system in place. We are an uncompetitive trading nation, particularly in the area of manufactured goods, and slightly longer term implications of this premature return to full indexation could well create further major problems for our export competitiveness in the years ahead."

The Melbourne-based economic forecasting group, Syntec, also warns in its latest report against the threat to economic stability posed by the big injection into the country of overseas funds.

"This development cannot be countered by higher Australian interest rates, which would only exacerbate the problem," Syntec said.

"If current exchange rate management aimed at reducing this external liquidity doesn't work, then an open float of the Australian dollar will have to be considered before 1983-84 is through."

But although Syntec stressed that financial markets were right to be concerned about the implications of excessive monetary growth, the focusing on the blow-out in M-3 (cash and bank deposits) was misguided.

This, Syntec said, was largely the product of a sharp rise in money growth between March and June last financial year and would

wash out of the figures by the June quarter next year.

"What markets should be concerned about is the excessive growth in 'air money' base," Syntec said.

"There are two major sources of base money — the Federal Budget deficit and private sector foreign exchange transactions.

"The deficit's liquidity injection is being substantially neutralised by bond sales to the non-bank sector. But despite unprecedented flexibility and sophistication in exchange rate management, we are still getting too much money across our foreign exchanges."

Syntec said that, as long as there was the conjunction of a managed exchange rate and expectations of a weakening United States dollar, excessive capital inflow was likely to continue.

"For now, this money base growth is not a problem, because of the recession and associated weakness of private sector demand for funds," Syntec said.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA STATE BUDGET PUBLISHED

New Tax Reported

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 14 Oct 83 pp 1, 11

[Article by E. A. Barker]

[Text]

A NEW tax on financial transactions is one of the main features of the Burke government's first Budget brought down yesterday.

There will also be higher stamp duty, more money for housing and job creation and payroll tax relief for small businesses.

There will be a new stamp duty on life insurance and increased duty on mortgages and motor vehicle registrations and transfers.

The base rate of duty on conveyances will be increased.

The stamp duty increases will apply from November 1.

A driver's licence will go up by \$4 to \$15 a year from November 1, but there will be a discount rate of \$40 for three-year renewals.

The Premier, Mr Burke, has brought down a \$2.66 billion balanced Budget with the main aims of boosting economic activity and stimulating employment.

Safe

He said that the Government had aimed for a Budget that was safe and steady.

The overriding concern was to keep the State on course for economic recovery.

The Budget provides incentives for small business, a big boost for the housing sector and aid for technology and tourism.

A \$216.3 million Main Roads Department roads programme—up 31.8 per cent—is expected to provide an extra 260 jobs in 1983-84.

New taxes and charges in the Budget come on top of increased tobacco tax and higher charges for electricity, gas, water, sewerage and drainage, hospitals, bus and train fares and State Housing Commission rents announced earlier this year.

A new financial institutions duty will be imposed on January 1 at 5c on each \$100 paid into all financial institutions.

The maximum duty on any transaction will be 3½%.

The duty will be paid on transactions through banks, building societies, credit unions, finance companies and similar bodies.

Institutions with receipts of less than \$5 million a year will be exempt.

Special provisions will be introduced to reduce the amount payable on short-term money market operations.

Several stamp duties, which the Government says are inequitable, will be abolished when the new tax is introduced.

They include those applying to credit business, instalment purchases, arrangements and on the issue and discounting of bills—other than cheques—and promissory notes.

Mr Burke said that the financial institutions duty would bring WA into line with NSW, Victoria and South Australia.

It would apply at a relatively low rate to a broad tax base as opposed to the stamp duties it would replace, he said. These were more narrowly based, specific and discriminatory.

The impact of the new duty on normal banking transactions was not substantial.

Total

If receipts of \$15,000 arose from a person's normal annual banking transactions, the total duty payable would be only about 14c a week.

The net additional revenue from replacing some stamp duties with the new duty was \$9.2 million in 1983-84 and \$21.8 million in a full year.

Mr Burke said it had been suggested that the duty would drive business to Queensland where there was none.

But the Government did not think that this would occur, he said.

There would be special provisions for

money market. Dealers to make it difficult to artificially transfer transactions to another State.

Mr Burke said that several stamp duty rates would be increased to bring them more into line with other States.

From November 1 the basic duty applying to conveyances would be increased.

The proposed new scale would limit the increase in duty applying to properties valued up to \$50,000 to a maximum of 1/2c.

The highest percentage increases in duty would apply to properties valued between \$100,000 and \$500,000.

The restructuring of the duty scale with the more valuable properties attracting higher rates had enabled the Government to contain duty increases on most home purchase transactions.

The rebate applying to conveyances of principal places of residence and small busi-

nesses valued at \$50,000 or less would be retained at 2c per \$100.

With the aim of encouraging Australian rather than overseas ownership of local property, the Government would examine the practicability of applying a higher rate of duty to conveyances involving the acquisition of property by foreign interests.

Stamp duty

Stamp duty on mortgages and other fixed term security would be increased from 15c per \$100 to 25c per \$100 of the amount secured, with consequent changes to the duty on indefinite term securities.

Mr Burke said that WA was the only State which did not levy a stamp duty on life assurance.

A duty of 5c per \$100 for life assurance of between \$100 and \$500 and 10c per \$100 for sums over \$500 would

apply from November 1.

For temporary or test insurance, a duty of 5 per cent of the first years premium would be payable.

Stamp duty on motor vehicle registration and transfers would go up from \$150 per \$100 to \$1 per \$100.

In line with other States, there would no longer be a maximum duty.

The flat fee payable on the transfer of motor vehicle ownership would increase from \$5 to \$10.

The stamp duty measures would yield an extra \$23.1 million in 1983/84 and \$5.5 million in a full year.

TAB

The turnover tax applying to off-course investments with the Totalisator Agency Board will be increased by one percentage point to 7 per cent from November 1.

Additional revenue is expected to be \$1.7 million in 1983/84 and \$2.9 million in a full year.

Several departmental fees and charges will be increased to reflect the cost of providing the service.

Mr Burke said that the Government would hold to a maximum of \$6 million the funds allocated to sports and culture from instant lottery sales.

Instant lotteries contrasted with other lotteries in that no part of the proceeds was paid to the Hospital Fund.

The intended appropriation to the sports and culture account of \$6 million was slightly higher than the \$5.7 million paid in 1982/83.

It was intended that the remaining proceeds of instant lotteries would be paid to the Hospital Fund, reducing the impact of hospitals on the consolidated revenue fund by about \$5.7 million this financial year.

Return

The Government thought that public authorities and instrumentalities capable of operating profitably should be required to provide a return on taxpayers' investment.

In line with this policy, the Perth Mint would be required to pay into consolidated revenue 50 per cent of the profit on its operations in the preceding year.

The revenue yield in 1983/84 was expected to be \$500,000.

For the seventh time in nine years the basic annual payroll tax exemption will be lifted by 28 per cent to \$100,000.

The move is expected to free about 1100 small businesses from tax and give them more capacity to take on staff.

There will be a payroll tax rebate scheme for employers of full year apprentices.

Mr Burke said that to help finance these and other employment creating measures, the Government had decided to adopt the practice in other States of not giving a minimum payroll tax deduction.

The full payroll tax rate would be paid by employers with payrolls of more than \$100,000.

Cost

The payroll tax measures would cost about \$1.1 million this financial year and \$3.7 million in a full year.

Measures to help boost employment in small business include:

- Grants and subsidies totalling \$200,000, nearly treble last years spending.

- \$22,000 for establishing a small business development corporation and continuing the activities of the small business advisory service.

- Improving access of small business to development finance and legislation for a small business loans guarantee scheme.

- More work on the national introduction of water charging.

The budget confirms the Government's drive to attract investment to the economy.

Construction of a centre at the Heston technology park will cost \$1 million and a further \$100,000 will be spent on the park's first stage.

Tourism

The Government's bid to boost economic development and employment creation through tourism enhanced by Australia's victory in the America's Cup is reflected in a 30 per cent increase for the Department of Tourism.

The department expected to become the Tourism Commission on January 1 will get \$16 million, including \$7.5 million for advertising and promotion.

Other features of the Budget are:

- Money for an extra 100 police.

- Gross spending of \$718.3 million on hospitals and medical and health services, including the full year costs of opening the podium and ward block at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital and the patients service block at Princess Margaret Hospital.

- A vote of \$56.1 million for the Department of Community Welfare (up \$6.5 million), including \$15,000 for higher subsidy payments from January 1 for children in foster and residential care.

- \$12 million for the Forestry Department (up 17.3 per cent).

- \$118.9 million to meet the net operating deficits of Westrail, the Metropolitan Passenger Transport Trust and Stateships.

- \$15,000 for the Government's Harbour 2000 programme.

- \$3.6 million to the Department of Consumer Affairs (up 26.1 per cent) to enable it to broaden its consumer education functions.

Opposition: 'Gloomy Outlook'

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 14 Oct 83 pp 1, 13

[Text] **THE Budget meant that the State Government had cost the average West Australian family \$1000 a year, the Leader of the Opposition, Mr O'Connor, said last night.**

This came from the increases in taxes and charges announced yesterday and those announced in June, he said.

The Budget gave a very gloomy outlook for WA for the three years of the Labor Government.

Mr O'Connor said that the four main factors which indicated the

sorry state of the present and future outlook were:

- Despite its promise to balance the Budget without increasing taxes, the Government had increased a wide range of taxes and introduced new ones.

Increases included a 66.6 per cent lift in stamp duty on mortgages, 100 per cent on motor vehicle transfers and 36 per cent on drivers' licences.

New taxes were imposed on life insurance policies and on credit transactions with banks and other financial institutions.

Mr O'Connor said this meant that the Budget taxed people when they put money into the bank and the Commonwealth taxed them when they took it out.

The new taxes and increases on old ones came on top of the Government taking an extra \$114 million from the public in increased charges in June.

- Despite the talk of restraint, efficient government, and tough decisions, the Government had boosted its own revenue by 11.5 per cent.

This contrasted with the Federal Government's prediction of an inflation rate of 7.5 per cent and the cer-

tainty most individuals and families faced that they would not enjoy an increase in their income of anything like 11.5 per cent this financial year.

- The betrayal of sport and culture through the decision to increase their income from the instant lottery by only five per cent compared to the overall Government increase of 11.5 per cent.

The decision was particularly callous in view of the Government's determination to cut off sponsorship funds from tobacco companies.

If the Government was sincere in its professed concern for sport, for health, and

for the young it would ensure that there was a substantial increase in funds to more than compensate for the loss of sponsorship, particularly as people were invited to buy tickets in the instant lottery specifically to support culture and sport.

The racing and trotting industries were further hit by a 16.6 per cent increase in the Government's take from the TAB.

- The foreshadowing of a rapid and substantial increase in socialism; in direct government ownership of economic activities.

The Premier's speech clearly indicated that the Government would

be directly involved in the cutting and polishing of gems, in the marketing of gems and in the manufacture of jewellery.

It was also clear that it was determined to be involved in a socialist rather than supportive way in high technology industries.

The Government's preference for socialism over employment-creating capital works was shown by the fact that though it had \$50m. available in advance royalty payments it refused to spend it on capital works and employment, preferring to pursue its socialist dogma in a way that would not create one new job.

STATE BUDGET FIGURES REVIEWED

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 14 Oct 83 p 12

[Chart: "State Budget: Where the money comes from--and where it goes"]

[Text]

	1978-79	79-80	80-81	81-82	82-83	83-84
Payroll tax	152.7	166.0	197.5	230.0	254.0	272.5
Stamp duty	65.6	77.0	100.0	116.2	123.3	152.1
Lottery Taxes	14.7	15.4	17.3	18.5	20.5	20.1
Liquor and tobacco taxes	23.5	26.4	28.1	31.3	37.5	62.1
Revenue from Crown	754.1	853.4	954.5	1038.7	1141.7	1253.8
Departmental fees	148.8	182.6	217.9	231.6	295.8	300.4
Mining revenue	72.6	74.4	66.7	52.6	115.1	123.4
Other revenue	221.1	244.0	256.5	302.6	337.0	368.5
Total	1443.3	1641.2	1860.5	2061.9	2324.1	2659.5

	78-79	79-80	80-81	81-82	82-83	83-84
Total expenditure	553.5	402.3	452.3	522.0	618.1	682.0
Education department	325.5	370.8	427.6	480.3	561.8	623.4
Health	318.0	391.4	456.2	473.5	512.2	572.5
Welfare	47.5	53.1	59.0	56.2	58.6	73.2
Police & MFA	56.7	67.2	76.3	85.5	121.2	110.0
Prisons	20.9	24.9	30.6	35.5	41.5	46.5
Resources development and industry assistance	110.4	178.4	199.1	232.2	262.5	344.3
Transport & communication	199.4	232.2	248.9	278.0	310.6	335.8
Public debt charges	114.2	121.8	137.0	155.0	171.6	188.8
Other expenditure	146.2	169.8	193.1	219.0	255.6	291.2
Total	1443.3	1641.2	1860.5	2061.9	2324.1	2659.5

HAWKE HITS 'DISARRAY' OF LIBERAL, NATIONAL PARTIES IN QUEENSLAND

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 11 Oct 83 p 3

[Article by Ian Perkin: "Coalition Is Dead, Hawke Tells Queensland"]

[Text] THE Prime Minister, Mr Hawke, yesterday launched a scathing attack on the "disarray" of the Liberal and National Parties in a bid to persuade Queenslanders to vote Labor in the State election on October 22.

Declaring "the coalition is dead" in Queensland, he widened his attack on the conservative parties to include the Liberals and the Nationals around the country.

He told a rally of more than 600 in the mining town of Mt Isa in north-west Queensland that the reality of conservative politicians today was that they were in total disarray.

Welcome

"They are fighting one another at the federal level, and here in Queensland they fought one another before the elections and they are now fighting one another during the election," he said.

Mr Hawke flew from Cairns to a tremendous welcome from the electorate of Mt Isa where Labor needs only a 1 per cent swing to win the seat.

After a brisk game of cricket with the local candidate, Mr Hawke moved on to the Mt Isa Irish Club where he was welcomed to the strains of Gallipoli and You'll Never Walk Alone.

He said the people of Queensland would have to vote for the Labor Party if they were to be at all sure of having a real government after October 22 because of the destruction of the Liberal and National Party coalition.

He warned that if Queensland did not have a government that was prepared to work with a Federal Labor administration it would be Queenslanders who would suffer.

"The interests of the people of Australia cannot simply be looked after at the federal level of government," he said.

"This State election is unique. Never before, never have I been in an election campaign where it has not been certain that after the election there will be a government.

"Every other time I have been in an election I have

known that whichever way the vote went that afterwards there would be a government.

"But unless the majority of Queenslanders — something like 52 per cent it has to be under a gerrymander in this State — vote for the ALP then you have no assurance of a government after the election."

Mr Hawke said any achievement by the Federal Government had to be matched by a willing State Government prepared to accept its policies.

Regret

He said it was a matter of enormous regret that only in Queensland the Federal Government was not getting the co-operation it should expect.

He pointed especially to his Government's \$300 million job creation program of which \$42 million was allocated to Queensland.

He said that as yet the Queensland Government had not accepted any of the money and indeed was doing its best to stop the job creation schemes getting going before the election.

COURT RULING SETBACK FOR ARBITRATION COMMISSION

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 12 Oct 83 p 24

[Text]

CANBERRA: The capacity of the Arbitration Commission to settle union demarcation disputes suffered a severe setback at the hands of the High Court yesterday.

In a majority judgment on a dispute between the Australian Workers' Union and the Builders Labourers' Federation, the court ruled that the Arbitration Commission had no power to decide eligibility of particular workers to join a particular union.

The decision went in favour of the AWU in that union's dispute with the BLF over coverage of certain employees at the Worsley bauxite alumina project.

Mr Justice Lionel Murphy, the sole dissenting judge, said that the legal interpretation of his majority colleagues would lead to "much public mischief."

Mr Justice Murphy declared that the decision would allow every decision of the Arbitration Commission in demarcation disputes to be taken to the High Court itself for review.

The majority justices also acknowledged

what they called this "undesirable" outcome of their decision.

They said that the solution lay with Parliament, which could act to allow appeals from commission rulings on union membership to be taken to a lower court such as the Federal Court.

However, Mr Justice Murphy made it clear that the solution suggested by the majority would do no more than transfer the problem, not solve it.

Confusing

He said that the strict interpretation of the Arbitration Commission's powers would cause public mischief also by delaying and confusing the resolution of disputes.

The majority (Justices Mason, Brennan, Deane and Dawson) based their decision on an interpretation of the Conciliation and Arbitration Act, in particular Section 60.

That section purports to make decisions of the Arbitration Commission immune from interference in any way by the courts.

The majority said that the immunity would normally apply,

but it could not override the power of the High Court to intervene under the Constitution when the commission exceeded its jurisdiction.

Judicial

The commission, they said, was not a judicial body, but the question of whether union eligibility rules applied to particular employees was a judicial question.

Therefore, if the commission erred in a finding about eligibility, a party before the commission could seek the High Court's intervention by way of the constitutional writs such as mandamus and prohibition.

The effect of the court's decision will be that the Arbitration Commission will have to reconsider its earlier decision to grant exclusive coverage of the relevant Worsley workers to the BLF.

The High Court majority held that the commission was wrong in finding that the employees involved would not be eligible to join the AWU under that union's eligibility rules.

SOCIALIST PARTY SPLITS LEFTIST MOVEMENT VIEWED

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 18 Oct 83

[Article by Keith Martin]

[Text] Australia's Left is once again in ferment over the future course of communism in this country.

Moves towards a broad coalition of communist, socialist, and left-wing ALP forces have caused a bitter split in the second largest leftist party, the Socialist Party of Australia, accompanied by resignations, expulsions and personal attacks.

Those who have left the SPA — including a number of prominent trade union leaders — are accusing the central officials of the SPA of "Left sectarianism."

The SPA leaders in turn accuse the dissidents of "revisionism" (otherwise expressed as "Right opportunism"), arguing that in a failing capitalist world the SPA, by adhering to strict principles, has an unrivalled opportunity to gain power.

One point is conceded by both sides: the present upset is only the latest in a long series of recurring ideological splits in the Australian Left which began in the early 1900s.

To understand the present split it is necessary to know something of the recent history of the communist movement in Australia.

The three main leftist parties in Australia are the Communist Party of Australia (CPA), Socialist Party of Australia (SPA) and Communist Party of Australia (Marxist-Leninist), otherwise known as the CPA (M-L).

The CPA was formed in 1920 and at its peak during World War II had about 25,000 members. Today it has a membership estimated at 1,500 to 2,000.

In past years the CPA showed fairly unqualified support for both the major world communist sys-

tems — the Soviet Union and China. However, in recent years it has taken a more independent Australian line, and has criticised both of these countries on occasions.

The SPA was formed in 1971 by a number of leading CPA figures who were dissatisfied with that party's "abandonment of Marxist principles." One of the reasons for its formation was the increasingly anti-Soviet stance of the CPA, and the SPA has generally taken a pro-Russian line.

The SPA secretary, Mr Pete Symon, says it is not party policy to disclose its membership numbers. Those who have split with the party claim the membership has fallen from a peak of about 1,000 to about 500. However, Mr Symon claims the membership is growing.

The third of the major parties, the Communist Party of Australia (Marxist-Leninist) takes a low public profile and its membership is not known, although other of the Left outside it say it would have no more than "a few hundred" members.

It was formed in 1963 out of the growing rift between Russia and China and takes a pro-China line.

The CPA (M-L) has as its founder and chairman a Melbourne barrister, Mr Ted Hill, who is said in left-wing circles to be a shrewd tactician. It is mainly Melbourne-centred and its best-known member in the public eye is the Federal secretary of the Builders' Labourers Federation, Mr Norm Gallagher.

Outside of these three well-established organisations are a number of others, all claiming to espouse the true communism. The very proliferation of communist

organisations in Australia, and their oft-stated antipathy for one another, makes the task of uniting them a formidable one.

Those seeking to broaden the base of the Left are working mainly through three organisations — the Australian Marxist Forum (AMF), the Maritime Unions Socialist Activities Association (MUSAA) and the Organisation of Socialist Activities (OSA).

The Australian Marxist Forum is the largest of these groups, and was promoted as a discussion group (although the SPA officials see something more sinister in it). MUSAA, which has wide support on the waterfront, is intended as the first of a number of loose union groupings, and a second has already been formed in the building and maritime industries that most of the secessions from the SPA have occurred.

The Organisation of Socialist Activities is mainly ethnic-oriented, and claims substantial support in the Greek and Arab communities.

All three of these groupings are aimed at coalescing the Left, and all three have come under particular attack from the SPA as "splitting organisations."

The rift in the SPA began to appear in the run-up to that party's fourth congress in 1981, and surfaced during the congress, particularly over changes in the voting methods for the Sydney delegation (Sydney by then had become the centre of criticism by the SPA leadership).

Mr Pat Clancy, Federal Secretary of the Building Workers' Industrial Union, one of the founders of the SPA and its then president, was one of the first critics of

trends in the party's leadership, and is now one of the leaders of the movement towards a coalition of the Left.

Prior to the fourth congress, SPA members were invited to contribute discussion papers for the congress. Mr Clancy wrote a paper which criticised the direction of the party as seeking to duplicate in modern Australia the writings and experiences of the Bolshevik Party of pre-revolutionary Russia.

He said that attempts to slavishly copy the Bolshevik model had had some tragic consequences, notably in the 1956 Hungarian counter-revolution.

Attitudes hardened after the fourth congress and soon after the central committee of the SPA expelled Mr Tom Supple, Sydney branch secretary of the Waterside Workers' Federation, for attacking the party at meetings of waterside workers and for seeking to involve other international parties in the dispute.

Mr Supple had defended the WWF against SPA statements that it had 'scabbed' on metal unions during a dispute involving waterfront tradesmen. The principle at issue was whether he should have supported the union or the party. Later five other prominent maritime unionists were expelled by the SPA for supporting him.

The next internal upset in the SPA occurred this year and culminated with the building branch of the SPA, mainly based on the BWIU, leaving the party.

Mr Clancy and other building union officials were charged with refusing to abide by party decisions arising from their membership of the Australian Marxist League.

Another factor was their issuing of a media statement about the dispute which criticised the party.

The SPA first abolished Mr Clancy's position as president. He

and other building union officials then resigned from the party. But it did not accept their resignation and expelled them.

Last March the central committee of the SPA issued a 41-page booklet entitled "The Pattern of Struggle for Marxism-Leninism in the Communist Movement in Australia" replying to its critics.

The booklet says many more people will become interested in the ideas of socialism as the real alternative to the failing capitalist system.

At such a time the SPA should be strengthened; unfortunately, it was at this very time that some members had embarked on a course of disruption, designed to split and set up another political organisation.

The central committee said the eventual aim of the splitters was to join with others in forming another sort of political party "which, while pretending to advocate socialism, will in fact, be based on the old revisionist concepts."

The booklet selects for particular criticism the views of Mr W J (Bill) Brown, a veteran Australian communist and former editor of the CPA newspaper, Tribune. At one time he was a member of the SPA central committee but was later expelled from the party.

Last month Mr Brown and eight other former SPA members, including Mr Clancy, issued a 94-page booklet setting out their views and condemning the SPA booklet as "a crude attempt by the SPA leadership to explain the political basis of the crisis of division and disintegration that has arisen under their leadership."

The booklet, entitled "Problems and Perspectives", says that with the expulsions and resignations of union leaders the SPA has virtually lost its working-class base.

It says the differences are based on two fundamentally different approaches.

"One was 'parliamentary Marxism' — a dogmatic, Left sectarian approach which claimed to be applying Marxism — Leninism in its 'pure' form.

"The other approach was that, while firmly adhering to universal principles, it was essential to heed Lenin's advice on the necessity to take into account the conditions of a given country at a given time."

The booklet also attacks the SPA leadership for not supporting the Labor Party in the last Federal election, and instead "making the quite unreal assertion that the SPA should be considered by the electors as 'the alternative.'"

It also condemns the SPA for not supporting the ACTU-ALP prices and incomes accord.

Mr Symon, in an interview this week, defended the SPA stand against the accusations in "Problems and Perspectives."

On the question of supporting the Labor Party in the election, Mr Symon said the SPA had called for the defeat of the Fraser Government, which meant the election of a Labor Government, but had given emphasis to the election of its own candidates.

"We do not see the salvation of the working people being achieved through Labor Party governments and therefore we have to build up an alternative."

Mr Brian Aarons, a member of the national executive of the Communist Party of Australia, confirmed that the CPA was participating in the Australian Marxist Forum, in the belief that this was part of a move towards a greater unity in the Left.

Meanwhile, even the pro-Peking CPA (Marxist-Leninist) which had previously taken a completely independent line, is suggesting that there should be greater unity in the Left.

KEATING SEES WIDE SUPPORT FOR POLICIES

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 13 Oct 83 p 19

[Article by Tom Mockridge]

[Text] The Federal Treasurer, Mr Keating, said yesterday that Australia was regarded overseas as the "jewel" of the international capital markets.

In his first public remarks on the economy since returning this week from the International Monetary Fund World Bank meeting in Washington, Mr Keating also claimed that the Labor Government's handling of the economy had widespread support from the Australian business community.

He was responding to a question in Parliament from the Government backbench, which referred to an attack made by the Opposition Treasurer Mr Howard, last week, in which he said the Prime Minister, Mr Hawke, was deluding himself that he had the support of the business sector.

Mr Howard quoted from a series of independent commentaries on the economy to back his case.

Mr Keating replied that the results of a number of surveys of business disproved Mr Howard's claim.

The Confederation of Australian industry Westpac Bank survey had recorded that there was a revival in business confidence and a

brighter economic outlook, he said. Their latest survey had been more optimistic than any in the past two years.

A recent survey by the Victorian Chamber of Manufactures indicated similar results while a survey by the Melbourne University's Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research showed consumer optimism was at its highest level for two years, he said.

Also the Australian All Ordinaries stock exchange index was now at a level 40 per cent higher than when the ALP won government.

Mr Keating said he had noted that the chief general manager of the Westpac Banking Corporation, Mr Bob White, had said the Hawke Government's record was better than that of the coalition Government.

"He was more than happy with the new Labor Government since it came in, and was agreeably surprised with my good self," Mr Keating said.

He said the Westpac chief had described the Labor administration as flexible, whereas the former Prime Minister, Mr Fraser, had been described as a "hardened regulator."

Discussing his overseas trip, Mr Keating said there was a very high

level of interest and enthusiasm from senior business people about the Australian economy.

"Leading bankers expressed overwhelming support for the way the present Government is managing the economy," he said.

"On a number of occasions the Australian economy and Australia were referred to as the jewel of the international capital markets," he said.

"Bankers everywhere seem keen to be associated with debt issues by such a prime borrower."

Later he said that he had to restrain some of the enthusiasm which was directed towards Australia.

Australia's recent Eurobond loan indicated that this country was the "prime sovereign borrower in the world."

Mr Keating said that Canada had raised a Eurobond loan a short time after Australia, but had received less favourable terms.

In a passing reference to the recent climb in Australia's exchange rate, Mr Keating said the high level of capital inflow, "which does pose some problems for monetary management," was a further demonstration of international support for Australia.

HAYDEN WARNS OF NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION TREATY BREAK UP

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 21 Oct 83 p 3

[Excerpt]

THE Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Hayden, yesterday warned the United Nations nuclear weapons non-proliferation treaty was under threat of breaking down.

Presenting the Media Peace Prizes in Sydney, he said the end of this treaty could bring about the "awful prospect of a leap in the number of countries which have nuclear weapons."

"There is little which would threaten stability on, or indeed the existence of, this planet more gravely," he said.

The Government was working to preserve the treaty and would be urging countries with nuclear weapons to honor their pledge to aid the development of peaceful uses of atomic energy.

Australia is a signatory to the 1969 treaty which is due for review in 18 months.

It requires signatories not to acquire nuclear weapons and nuclear weapon states to assist in the development of peaceful nuclear energy.

In order to keep that commitment intact the advanced industrialised states, in particular those who already held nuclear weapons, undertook to provide technical assistance

under strict safeguards to non-nuclear weapon states in the peaceful uses of atomic energy," he said.

"I must say, frankly, that the treaty is under great threat and there is a possibility that the review conference, in 18 months time, will break down."

Mr Hayden said the search for peace was gravely threatened.

"There must be an end to the nuclear arms race and a reduction in the numbers and kinds of weapons," he said.

"Our task, as a Government, is made difficult because the world is threatened, today, in a way that is as terrifying as it is unique."

"The greatest hope for peace lies in ordinary people demanding of their leaders that they commit themselves to the cause of peace with all the intensity that is now devoted to preparing for war."

The Government was determined to pursue arms control and disarmament, and was deeply concerned that arms reduction talks succeeded.

The war industry at its current level of activity represented a "scandalous diversion of human resources and ingenu-

ity away from decent productive activities to destruction and waste."

Urgent action was needed to change this situation, he said.

Mr Hayden said the United States and the Soviet Union had built over many years nuclear weapons in numbers and types that "passed beyond all reason."

CSO: 4200/211

BRIEFS

PAPUA NEW GUINEA DEFENSE MINISTER VISITS--Papua New Guinea's Defence Minister, Mr Epel Tito, was in Canberra on his first official visit to Australia, recently. He met Australian Ministers and viewed Australian Defence Force establishments. The visit was made in response to an invitation by Australia's Defence Minister during his visit to Papua New Guinea in June. "The defence relationship between Australia and Papua New Guinea remains of fundamental importance to the two countries," the Australian Minister, Mr. Scholes said. Mr Tito's visit followed high-level officials' discussions on matters of mutual defence interest in Canberra. Officers who participated in these talks were the Secretary, Australian Department of Defence, Mr W. B. Pritchett, the Chief of Defence Force Staff, Air Chief Marshal Sir Neville McNamara, the Papua New Guinea Secretary for Defence, Mr B. Maketu and the Commander of the Papua New Guinea Defence Force, Brigadier General G. M. Mamae. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur ASIAN DEFENCE JOURNAL in English Nov 83 p 117]

CSO: 4200/211

BRIEFS

ROHINGYA MUSLIMS FLEE BURMESE REPRESSION--Persecution of Muslims in Burma forced about 500 Rohingya Muslims in Arakan Province to cross over to Bangladesh last month. The secretary of the Rohingya Patriotic Front said in an appeal to the Muslim world: "The persecution of Burmese and Rohingya Muslims has made them homeless and destitute, and forced them to seek shelter in the Gulf and other countries." He added: "Apart from allowing some Muslims to go on the Hajj or to sacrifice sick, old and useless cattle on Eid, the regime's policies remain anti-Muslim." He pointed out that the regime has embarked on a policy of dispossessing Muslims of their mosques and expropriating their waqf properties. According to reports received from Arakan, several mosques and Muslim schools in the Irrawaddy district were attacked and destroyed by hooligans last month, with the connivance of the authorities; the imams and teachers have been sent to prison. The Muslim exodus will create problems for Bangladesh, which already faces economic hardship. In 1978 nearly 250,000 Muslims crossed over into Bangladesh after persecution by the authorities. Most were taken back. This time, the persecution is far more intensive. [Text] [East Burnham ARABIA: THE ISLAMIC WORLD REVIEW in English Nov 83 p 34]

CSO: 4200/214

DROUGHT, CYCLONE SERIOUSLY AFFECT FIJI ECONOMY

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 19 Oct 83 p 41

[Text] Suva, Tues: Drought and cyclone damage will seriously affect the Fiji economy for at least the next two years.

The country's Central Monetary Authority has called for an immediate wage freeze to lower pressure on foreign reserves by reducing the demand for imported goods.

The CMA said that drought would cut this year's sugar output to between 250,000 and 280,000 tonnes compared with the 425,000 to 450,000 tonnes originally expected.

This would have serious implications for domestic income, employment, balance of payments and Government revenue.

The Government might have to borrow abroad to preserve its reserves position from deteriorating further.

Fiji's gross domestic product would fall this year by six per cent and the fall in per capita income would be even more serious, the CMA said.

Stocks of unsold 1982 sugar would cover the shortfall in output this year, but if the drought continued for much longer there would not be enough to meet 1984 market commitments.

"If adequate action is not taken now the flow-on effects on the economy in 1984 and beyond will be even more serious in terms of the level of employment and income and hence the standard of living of the population," the authority warned.--AAP.

CSO: 4200/212

MOKHTAR INTERVIEWED ON EVE OF CHEYSSON VISIT

BK170905 Hong Kong AFP in English 0832 GMT 17 Nov 83

[By Gilles Bertin]

[Text] Jakarta, 17 Nov (AFP)--Cambodia is expected to receive priority attention during French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson's three-day visit to Indonesia starting today.

In an interview with AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE, Indonesian Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja pointed to the "similarities but also the differences" of views between the two countries on the issue.

"One of the good points of France's stand is its staunch opposition to (Khmer Rouge military chief) Pol Pot," he noted.

"We will try to persuade the French, since they don't like Pol Pot, to back the Democratic Kampuchea Government," he added.

"France must logically back Son Sann and Sihanouk," Mr Mokhtar said.

The prince leads the tripartite anti-Hanoi Cambodian resistance which links the Chinese-backed Khmer Rouge with non-communist nationalist forces loyal to Son Sann and Prince Sihanouk.

Mr Mokhtar asserted that in his view, although the Khmer Rouge were perhaps the dominant fighting force within the coalition, the nationalists appeared "increasingly stronger" politically.

He also indicated that he planned to brief Mr Cheysson on the latest proposals of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) on Cambodia. The proposals, made last September, call for a withdrawal of Vietnam's 150,000-170,000 troops from Cambodia on a territorial basis and the formation of a peacekeeping force observer group.

On France's controversial nuclear testing at Mururoa Atoll, Mr Mokhtar commented: "We understand the French position and we hope that France will heed the concern expressed by Pacific nations."

On the future of French-ruled New Caledonia--home of a large group of ethnic Indonesians--he indicated that any solution must safeguard the interests of that minority.

Observers here said the visit of Mr Cheysson, who served as ambassador here from 1966 to 1969, was also aimed at reaffirming the good ties between Paris and Jakarta.

Dr Mokhtar said he would ask Paris to increase its imports of local goods to curb Indonesia's substantial trade deficit with France.

For the first nine months of this year, Indonesian exports to France reached 64.7 million dollars while imports from France during this period totalled 296.8 million dollars.

But sources here said the trade imbalance was in reality less serious as some French-bound Indonesian products such as rubber, tin, cassava and coffee often transit through other countries and are not listed as French imports.

According to French customs' statistics Indonesian exports to France during the first eight months of this year were 84 million dollars while Indonesia imports from France totalled 299 million dollars.

French exports of chemical and steel products are also expected to drop in the coming years.

Yet two-way trade remains modest, with France ranking as Indonesia's 12th client and 10th supplier.

Dr Mokhtar also said that ASEAN--which groups Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand--would seek French help to persuade the European Economic Community (EEC) to ease ASEAN imports such as seed oil.

"(EEC) tariffs are too high," he added, stressing that ASEAN had already asked this question but had yet to get a reply.

"ASEAN wants if possible to obtain tariffs similar to those applied to products from Africa," Mr Mokhtar indicated.

Mr Cheysson and his six-member delegation may also raise the problem posed to French shipowners by Jakarta's decision to have products and equipment destined for projects paid for by the Indonesia Government carried on Indonesian ships.

Mr Cheysson, who earlier visited New Zealand and Australia, is to meet President Suharto and several ministers, including Mr Mokhtar, Economy Minister Ali Wardhana and Science and Research Minister B. J. Habibie.

FAMILIES FLEE SOUTH SUMATRAN TRANSMIGRATION PROJECT

Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 3 Oct 83 pp 1, 12

Article: "Drought, Pre-Harvest Famine Period, and Plant Disease in Pematang Panggang; Hundreds of Transmigrant Families Leave South Sumatran Sites"

Text: Concern over lack of food because of the drought, the pre-harvest famine period, and plant disease has caused hundreds of families to leave the Pematang Panggang V transmigration project in Ogan Komering Ilir Regency, South Sumatra.

This project was opened for transmigration in this past year. It is located in Mesuji and Pedamaran Subdistricts, which local residents call the Kayu Labu area. It was divided into five transmigration resettlement units (UPT), each of which was to house 400 families.

Signs of a food shortage, especially a rice shortage, began to be evident in July when it seldom rained while the earlier harvest failed because it was turned into powder by wereng [a type of insect] and wild boar made off with crops in the compound, especially cassava.

SINAR HARAPAN met a number of transmigrants from West Java in SP [Resettlement unit] I and III when touring the site last week. They said it was most difficult to find clear water during this year's dry season because wells had dried up and they had to resort to using swamp water that smelled rancid and tasted briny. For them, rice was no problem because they still obtained an allotment of rice which kept them fed to some extent. However, the allotment was soon eaten, and they had to work hard to find money for food by working for local lumber companies or at whatever work they could find. This enabled the newcomers from Java to hold out better than the people in the Sugihwaras [see 26 September SINAR HARAPAN] transmigration project where no work at all could be found to augment their income.

Transmigrants Feel Deceived and Trapped

However, Karta, a 45-year-old transmigrant, said many families at the site not only were threatened by hunger because of the pre-harvest famine period and drought but also felt they had been deceived and were trapped. Before departing Java last year, officials said the land in the transmigration area had

been prepared and was ready for planting, that seeds and fertilizer had been provided as had other necessities. However, he said, when they arrived at the site, they were forced to spend their own money which they brought from Java and had obtained by selling their homes and other possessions. According to Karta, who came from Tangerang, West Java, the transmigrants were given a ration of cassava seeds, a rambutan [type of fruit] tree seedling, and five banana tree seedlings but no rice seeds.

The paddy that was attacked by wereng recently was obtained from local residents or had been brought from Java by the transmigrants. Peanut and small green pea as well as corn seeds were bad while cow manure was offered as fertilizer. The poor seeds were not sown nor was the fertilizer spread, according to Karta. Because people wanted to spend Lebaran [The day ending the month-long Ramadan fast] in their own province, he said, they began to flee the site in a huge wave. From SP I alone, some 200 families have already returned to Java, and of the 450 families in SP III, less than 100 remain.

During the fasting month there were even casualties when a 22-family chartered "Bus Timbul Express" owned by M. Alibasah, a resident of Srinanti Pedamaran, had an accident in Lampung in which one person died and tens of passengers were injured. Srinanti Village is a transit stop for transmigrants leaving the Pematang Panggang V transmigration area.

The transmigrants leave their sites by chartered motorized river craft and change in Srinanti to a chartered bus for the rest of their journey to Lampung or Palembang.

According to information obtained by SINAR HARAPAN, almost every day in a village 6 kilometers from Kayuagung, the capital of OKI [Ogan Komering Ilir] Regency, small groups of transmigrants from Pematang Panggang are found waiting for the bus.

Salah, a transmigrant also from Tangerang, who decided to leave for Palembang together with five other families, expressed his disappointment that all life-giving supplies were gone. He said the residents were frustrated to find the bitter reality of the situation and threats of hunger and sickness. This had repeatedly been reported to the KSPT [Chief of staff of the transmigration resettlement area], moreover, it was reported to the South Sumatra KANWIL [regional office] of the Transmigration Department in Palembang, but as of the time Salah decided to leave the site, no news had been received. Salah (age 38), who recently came to Village 8 Ilir in Palembang with his brother, hopes he can work as a laborer or drive a pedicab.

Officials of the OKI Regency PEMDA [regional government] contacted by SINAR HARAPAN said they knew nothing about a possible food shortage in Pematang Panggang V. The officials, who were not prepared to make any official statements to the press, added that the KANWIL as well as the officials at the transmigration site had to report anything undue that happened to the regent, who acts as chief of the level II SATBINTRANS [Transmigration development

unit⁷. Perhaps the threat of a food shortage had been exaggerated by those who left the site, an official who did not want to be named disclosed as he patted his bulging abdomen.

A SINAR HARAPAN source in KODAK VI ^{sixth} Police District Command⁷ confirmed that there was concern about food in the Pematang Panggang transmigration area, and the police district was monitoring the situation there mainly with regard to possible security disruptions. Reports had even been received, and are now being verified, that children and babies were being sold to get money to buy rice, the SINAR HARAPAN source said.

In a television broadcast from the Palembang station last week, M. Yusuf Halim, the OKI regent, said there was a trend toward a food surplus, especially rice, in Pemabang Panggang. He cited as an example that a kilogram of rice cost from 125 to up to 175 rupiahs, while dried peas cost 600 rupiahs a kilogram.

Yusuf Halim did not mention which Pematang Panggang transmigration site was said to be so successful.

6804

CSO: 4213/41

SOUTH SULAWESI GOVERNOR CRITICIZES ENTREPRENEURS, FARMERS

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 3 Oct 83 p 8

[Article: "Pribumi Misunderstand KEPRES"]

[Text] Pribumi [Indigenous Indonesian persons] have misunderstood KEPRES [presidential decree] 14/14-A and 18 and have construed them to mean that any indigenous Indonesian can become an entrepreneur or contractor. "This is not true. The KEPRES assists economically weak entrepreneurs to develop their businesses so that they can compete in their fields of activity," A. Amiruddin, governor of South Sulawesi, told leading public figures on Friday, 23 September, during a meeting held in the Pinrang Regency located 180 kilometers from Ujungpandang.

Because of this misunderstanding, the governor said, buildings have been poorly constructed by indigenous contractors. He then pointed to the Pinrang regent's office building, where the meeting took place, as one of the new buildings that already showed signs of deterioration.

"Pribumi protest that KEPRES 14-A and 18 are being violated when they are not awarded a project. Moreover, they appear to be entrepreneurs but they actually employ members of their own family or intimate friends. If any of these employees is replaced, the businessman or the contractor quickly abandons the project. These KEPRES were not set up for this purpose," Amiruddin said.

This misunderstanding continues to weaken the position and image of Indonesian businessmen. Amiruddin asked regents and members of all South Sulawesi regional government apparatuses to begin to require tenders for building projects as stipulated in the regulations and to maintain close supervision of such projects. "Any appointment of a businessman to a project must be approved by the governor," he said firmly.

Pick or Catch, Sell

The governor commented on the way the people of South Sulawesi earn their living. Most of them farm or fish for a living but only by "picking or catching and selling!" The South Sulawesi economy actually would stagnate if its population only knew how to pick coconuts and sell them or to catch ocean fish and sell them.

"Actually, we are trying to process these products on a basic level. If the coconuts are processed into oil or soap, or if fishery products are first processed and then sold, we will earn more. We will get higher prices for these products, and we will employ more workers," he said.

The governor felt that up to now South Sulawesi residents did not know how to save part of their incomes to accumulate capital. He recommended that the people live modestly and work hard so that they are able to save some of their income to accumulate capital. If we have capital, we no longer will have to sell too much of our "homeland," he added.

The governor was surprised to learn there was an area of Pinrang that is irrigated but in which the residents plant only one crop of paddy a year. "This is wasteful and shows a lack of appreciation for God's gifts," the governor said.

Quoting statistics, Amiruddin said that annually some 36,000 hectares in Pinrang are planted in crops. "This is only 50 percent of the acreage that could be used for crops. Actually 70,000 to 80,000 hectares in Pinrang could be planted if the farmers were more industrious," he remarked.

The governor reminded his listeners that wet rice-fields in Pinrang are subsidized through irrigation projects at a cost of 2.5 million rupiahs per hectare. "Proper respect must be shown for this government subsidy by using the existing irrigation for any potential production," he recommended.

6804

CSO: 4213/41

DISTRIBUTION OF NEGLECTED PLANTATION ACREAGE CONSIDERED

Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian 3 Oct 83 pp 1, 11

[Article: "Distribution of Neglected Estate Acreage to Farmers"]

[Tex] On Saturday [1 October] in Jakarta, Dr A.T. Birowo, a specialist assisting the minister of agriculture, said neglected plantation acreage should be distributed only to farmers who are hard up and then developed to grow a crop that can be marketed.

Dr Birowo was convinced that the market was better adapted to plantation rather than horticultural crops. Therefore, the neglected acreage could be used to best advantage as plantations under the PIR [People's Nuclear Estate] projects.

Replying to a newsman's question at the close of the 3-day seminar on the future of Indonesian estates, Dr Birowo added that the estates sector is no longer troubled by an unfavorable market. From an economic standpoint, the market for estate crops at this time is far better than that for soy beans, cassava, or vegetables for which a marketing structure is being sought.

Extent of Neglected Plantations

As is known, there now is a growing surplus of "neglected" plantation land in several provinces. According to MERDEKA's notes, the source of which is the Plantation Directorate General, neglected acreage on plantations formerly owned by national and foreign private companies totals 201,755.84 hectares. Based on an inventory [conducted by the Plantation Directorate General], most of this land lies outside Java. In general, the land belongs to holders of HGU's (user's rights).

According to the agricultural economist, the neglected acreage could be used to advantage for horticultural purposes, but more thought must still be given to establishing a marketing structure. He admitted that such use would be far more productive compared with plantation crop production, but it would play a very small role in producing nonoil foreign exchange.

Dr Birowo, who also is the secretary of the PERHEPI [Indonesian Agricultural Economics Association] Management Council, was convinced that the target of \$5.5 billion in foreign exchange earnings, set by the government for the end of PELITA IV [Fourth 5-year economic development program], could be achieved.

In view of the favorable market, Dr Birowo concluded that doubts still exist about calling the plantation sector a total failure. Clearly, he said, the proclaimed foreign exchange target can be achieved although its achievement might be delayed for 1 or 2 years. "This we could tolerate," he added.

He admitted that there was a great shortage of manpower for estate work. Without specifying how many workers were needed, he said the manpower problem was growing year by year. "However, I am convinced this can be solved," he added.

The specialist assisting the agriculture minister believes Indonesians are a great people who can simultaneously solve any problem confronting them in the plantation, mining, or forestry fields.

6804

CSO: 4213/41

KUD ACCUSED OF COMPLICITY IN CLOVE SALES

Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 3 Oct 83 pp 1, 12

[Article: "KUD in West Aceh Is an Accomplice of Interisland Clove Traders"]

[Text] In the present pre-harvest famine period, clove farmers on Simeulue Island, West Aceh, are forced to go into debt to middlemen by mortgaging their crops.

This is happening because the banks on that island are unable to offer speedy assistance to the farmers. Because of the complicated procedures involved, the farmers do not like to borrow money from these banks.

On Sunday [2 October] in Banda Aceh, SINAR HARAPAN encountered a number of clove farmers from Simeulue Island who said they had to mortgage their crops because they had so many problems. Therefore, their clove harvest would fall into the hands of the middlemen who offered them loans.

These farmers said that generally the middlemen were accomplices of inter-island traders (PAP) and were deliberately set up in all remote areas of the island.

PT Gudang Garam

On Simeulue Island, the farmers said, there are only two PAP, the Firma Ganda and PT Marunda Raja Sari. The latter PAP apparently is an agent of PT Gudang Garam. What causes much concern is that a number of village unit cooperatives (KUD) also are PAP accomplices. The KUD cannot do anything to assist the farmers because most of the KUD capital comes from the PAP. Cloves are auctioned off on the island through a lottery system because the two PAP do not compete. Moreover, one could say they hold a purchase monopoly.

A SINAR HARAPAN source at the Aceh Regional Trade Office said PT Kerta Niaga, which was expected to prop up the farmers, suffered total paralysis in its efforts to implement KEPRES [presidential decree] No 8 of 1980.

The paralysis resulted from pressure applied by the PAP and an agent for a clove cigarette factory in Java who controlled the clove price and quality. In practice, PT Kerta Niaga was unable to market the cloves for which it was to provide support, the source said.

KEPRES No 8 of 1980 clarified that only KUD's could purchase cloves from farmers. Traders were not permitted to buy cloves directly from the farmers while interisland traders (PAP) could bid on the cloves at the auction conducted by PUSKUD [Central KUD].

KEPRES No 8 also explained that the standard purchase price established by the government for KUD's was 6,500 rupiahs per kilogram, which is the floor price. Meanwhile the auction floor price was 7,000 rupiahs per kilogram. If the price obtained at the auction fell below the floor price, the clove price was to be supported by the government through PT Kerta Niaga.

However, the SINAR HARAPAN source on Simeulue Island said, the PAP, through their accomplices whom they had spread throughout the island, bought cloves directly from the farmers whom they had paid by offering them loans under the harvest mortgage system.

Game Played

Responding to a question, the SINAR HARAPAN source said all clove trade administration mechanisms now on the island were held in the grip of the interisland traders while the KUD, which had been expected to help the farmers, was not functioning. The KUD role on the island was merely that of a collector of the agents' cloves and as an accomplice of PAP. Cloves collected by the KUD's are auctioned off as though they belong to the KUD.

"So, it is not surprising that because of the game being played, KUD on the island are practically comatose, and meanwhile interisland traders can play around as they wish with the farmers' price in bidding at an auction where there is no support for the farmer," he added.

Because the PAP role was so great in the auctions, the clove price fell below the floor price. The price of cloves purchased by PAP on Simeulue Island ranged between 4,500 and 5,500 rupiahs per kilogram.

The island produces between 4,000 and 6,000 tons of cloves every harvest season. As harvest nears, this island is usually flooded with seasonal workers. In the big harvest of 1981, no fewer than 15,000 seasonal workers came to Simeulue Island to pick cloves.

During the clove harvest, the prices of basic necessities soar. It is estimated that this year's big harvest season will begin in December.

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CSO: 4213/41

BRIEFS

LNG TO JAPAN--Products of the expanded LNG processing plant in Badak, Bontang, located some 175 km northeast of Balikpapan, east Kalimantan, have been shipped on five occasions to Japan. Each shipment involved some 125,000 cubic meters of LNG worth \$15 million. The expansion was intended to increase the production capacity of the plant. Two plants have been built under the expansion program designed to produce an additional output of 530 million cubic feet of natural gas per day, which could turn out some 21,000 cubic meters of LNG per day. [Summary] [BK240202 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 21 Oct 83]

MALUKU TRANSMIGRATION PROGRAM--The Maluku Province during the 1983-84 fiscal year receives a quota for the resettlement of 2,295 families of transmigrants. The head of the Maluku Regional Transmigration Office said that 1,000 families will be resettled at the Pasahari Plain on Ceram Island, Central Maluku, 600 families at (Wahile) Plain in Central Halmahera and the remaining 695 families at the (Kaubiang) Plain. The transmigrants consist of transmigrants from Java and local people. [Summary] [Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0700 GMT 27 Oct 83 BK]

SITE FOR RETURNEES' RESETTLEMENT--The Indonesian Government has decided to turn Halmahera Island in North Maluku as a site for resettlement for Indonesian nationals in the southern Philippines who want to return to their homeland, the minister of transmigration said during a meeting with mass media editors at the Department of Information in Jakarta last night. Some 500 Indonesian nationals in the southern Philippines have expressed the desire to go home, and the government will help their repatriation and resettle them in the new resettlement site in Halmahera. [Text] [Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1500 GMT 28 Oct 83 BK]

NONOIL, NONGAS EXPORT VALUE--The Indonesian nonoil and nongas export value during the first 7 months of this year--from January to July--increased by 21.6 percent compared with the export value during the same period last year. Data from the Bank of Indonesia showed that the value of the Indonesian non-oil and nongas commodity export during the first 7 months of 1982 was worth \$1.920 billion, while the export value during the same period of 1983 increased to \$2.336 billion. The nonoil and nongas commodities include plywood, sawn timber, coffee, tobacco, rubber, oil palm kernels, tin, textile, spices, tea, frozen shrimps, handicraft goods, and electronic goods. Most

Prominent among the export commodities was plywood, while tapioca was the lowest in term of the export value. [Text] [BK310615 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0700 GMT 30 Oct 83]

TRANSMIGRATION SETTLEMENT--During October 1983, 407 transmigrant families from Yogyakarta were resettled at transmigration locations in Jambi and South Sumatera Provinces. [Summary] [BK050440 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 2300 GMT 2 Nov 83]

APPOINTMENT OF MILITARY OFFICERS--Defense and Security Minister General Poniman installed eight first echelon officials of the Defense and Security Department in Jakarta on 8 November. They are: Lieutenant General Yogi Supardi, retired, as secretary general; Lt Gen (Widyo Sarwono), retired, as inspector general; Rear Admiral S. M. Parapat as director general of planning and budget; Lt Gen S. Sumantri, retired, as director general of manpower and veterans; Vice Air Marshal B. Marwoto as director general in charge of materials, facilities and services; Brigadier General Hardiono as head of industrial and technological research and development; Brig Gen Utaryo Surodirono, retired, as head of survey and topographical center; and Major General Muharsono as head of education and training center. [Summary] [BK121043 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0700 GMT 8 Nov 83]

OIL PLANT EXPANSION--President Suharto on 1 November dedicated the expansion project of the Balikpapan Oil Refinery Plant in East Kalimantan. The project will add another 200,000 barrels a day to Indonesia's refining capacity adding to the 60,000 [figure as heard] barrels a day from the two previous plants in Balikpapan. Altogether, Indonesia's refining capacity will reach 900,000 barrels a day when the Dumai hydrocracker project in Riau Province, Sumatera, currently in progress, is completed. Indonesia this year imported some 500,000 barrels of petroleum products every day to meet its domestic demand. In addition to this, about 180,000 barrels a day of Indonesia's crude oil was processed in Singapore refinery plant and another 20,000 barrels in the Philippines. The expansion project at Balikpapan Refinery Plant has cost Indonesia some \$1.5 billion. [Summary] [BK021444 Jakarta International Service in English 0800 GMT 1 Nov 83]

NONALIGNED INFORMATION CONFERENCE--The nonbloc information ministers meeting scheduled in Jakarta from 25-30 January will focus on joint action programs relating to all communications and information means. This was disclosed by Information Minister Harmoko in a briefing with editors, the Association of Indonesian Journalists board executives, and the Publishers Association in Jakarta Tuesday. He said the results of the meeting would have a great impact to the development of world information and communications. The joint action, the minister added, is in line with the implementation of the non-aligned news agency pooling system so that the flow of information among member states will be really known by all member countries. The minister on the occasion officiated the logo of the ministerial conference depicting a bird as the symbol of peace, indendence, and justice. Earlier Mr Harmoko received a courtesy call of Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi, who was accompanied by Tunisian Ambassador to Indonesia Jaafar. The Tunisian guest said he welcomes the holding of the nonaligned information ministerial meeting in Jakarta. [Text] [BK301339 Jakarta International Service in English 0800 GMT 30 Nov 83]

PANCASILA DEFENSE REQUIRED--The obligation to defend the Pancasila as the state's ideology, basis, and sole principle does not rest solely with the government; members of the DPR [Parliament], the state's highest institution, who concurrently are members of the MPR [People's Consultative Congress], are also responsible for defending this MPR TAP [Act of Parliament]. H. Amirmachud, speaker of both the DPR and the MPR, made this point in the Parliament building on Saturday [1] October when he closed the first parliamentary session of 1983-84. The DPR recessed until 17 October 1984. Amirmachud said the DPR functions to listen to and share the people's voice. "Any voice or aspiration that does not conflict with or discredit the MPR's TAP," he said. He clarified that every member of parliament is obligated to defend the MPR TAP, namely by explaining the TAP to the people. Additionally, the ministers of Parliament must courageously correct any erroneous statement made against the MPR TAP. "A DPR member must have an understanding of and be able to speak intelligently about the Pancasila as an ideology, basis, philosophy, as well as the sole principle," Amirmachud recommended. In defending the Pancasila, he found that society was inclined to be vague about Pancasila ideology being a philosophy. Further, there have been various reactions to the Pancasila as the sole principle as voiced by the BAKIN [State Intelligence Coordinating Agency] chairman in a recent working meeting with the DPR. Amirmachud reiterated that there were three political views on the Pancasila as the sole principle. The first view fully accepts the idea that the Pancasila is the sole principle. The second accepts the idea of the Pancasila being the sole principle for political parties and GOLKAR [Functional Group] but rejects its application to mass organization. The third view rejects treating the Pancasila as the sole principle for political parties and GOLKAR as well as for mass organizations, using a number of arguments that smear the Pancasila. [Excerpt] [Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian 3 Oct 83 pp 1, 12] 6804

CSO: 4213/41

ASIAN DEFENSE ISSUES EXAMINED

Kuala Lumpur ASIAN DEFENSE JOURNAL in English Nov 83 p 2

[Editorial: "Issues in Malaysian Defence"]

[Text]

The Malaysian Armed Forces (MAF) celebrated its golden jubilee in September this year with a mammoth parade to mark the occasion in the Malaysian capital of Kuala Lumpur. In the parade in which 10,000 men participated were also displayed some of the latest acquisitions in defence equipment such as Scorpion light tanks and Pilatus training aircraft. In the fifty years of its existence it can truly be said that the MAF has come out on its own and it can be asserted as well that the Malaysian army is one of the most professional and combat tested counter-insurgency forces in the world since its units are constantly rotated on operational sorties against the still extant communist insurgent threat in the country. Over the last half of the past decade and into the present and beyond, however, the MAF is being expanded and geared for additional missions in line with rapid, external developments in the region and the Western Pacific.

More specifically, the emphasis in MAF expansion and orientation is now on conventional warfare although its transformation as a self-steering armed force may be traced back to the late 60s and early 70s when British withdrawal east of Suez necessitated Malaysian responsibility for defence and not as heretofore a dependence on British and Commonwealth troops. But although Malaysian responsibility for Malaysian defence is an undeniable principle, it is less clear if there is sufficient understanding of the issues inherent in the establishment and consolidation of an armed forces capable of meeting threats from within and without. In a functioning democracy like Malaysia's, the defence and security of the country is an issue of public concern. Malaysia is a developing country as well, and whatever money is spent on defence usually means that less is being spent or could have been spent on non-defence areas such as projects of economic and social development. Also, defence is a very costly business and there must be concern that money spent on defence is money well spent on ensuring Malaysia's security and sovereignty. There must therefore be adequate justification for defence spending which has recently increased in proportion to other sectors of public spending. Nonetheless, it is accepted that defence is a priority of national interest, security and even resilience. Up to now, there has been little public discussion of defence plans and spending and it seems timely to raise these issues.

With rapid expansion in the late 70s propelled in part by communist victories in IndoChina and the Vietnamese irruption of Kampuchea in 1978, the Malaysian Armed Forces at the latest count is said to have some 100,000 men in the army and slightly more than 10,000 respectively in the navy and air force. Armed

Forces expansion and modernisation (called "PERISTA" or Armed Forces Special Modernisation Programme) has also kept apace - exact expenditures are difficult to ascertain although economic recession has slowed somewhat a projected spending of M\$3.8 billion (US\$1.7 billion) for 1983 alone. With a population about similar to Australia's, Malaysia now has an army that is now about 2.3 times the size of the Australian army... and Malaysia expects to have an even larger army by 1990.

The question of numbers and equipment must of course be related to the kind of threats to Malaysia's defence and to what extent preparations have to be made to counter them. For a country like Malaysia, this is not an altogether simple issue. Countries like the United States and Great Britain can readily conclude that their major threat and potential adversary is the Soviet Union. But how is Malaysia to perceive the threats to its security? A similar question posed a few years ago in neighbouring Singapore's parliament regarding escalating defence expenditures in that country was met with the retort that there had to be a defence "to meet a threat from no-one". Is the threat to Malaysia emanating from the north, the distant north, the south or from somewhere in the archipelago? Unless this question can be answered with a reasonable degree of certainty, it will be difficult to pinpoint defence plans and preparations.

If the threat from without seems less clear, the threat from within is a much more plausible premise from which defence plans can be formulated. Most observers are agreed that the threat that issues from the Communist Party of Malaya (CPM) and its splinter groups and the North Kalimantan Communist Party is "under control" and that their armed struggle is unlikely to achieve its goal of overthrowing legitimate, constituted authority in Malaysia. However, the seriousness of this threat cannot be underrated not only because of its potential strength deriving from its united front tactics and continued appeal from certain sections of the community but also because of the alarm and violence it can perpetrate as was demonstrated in its renewed activities in the 1974-76 period. The role of the army in counter-insurgency as such has to be maintained whatever emphasis is made in other forms of warfare.

Nonetheless, such a role itself has come to be increasingly assessed critically by the MAF. Should the army be entrusted merely with "framework" operations within the context of combined civilian-police-army procedures, a method well-tested and successful in the Malaysian environment? Should greater attention be given to military intelligence as opposed to police intelligence? Or, should the major thrust of counter-insurgency be left to other organisations than the army so that the latter can devote its activities to a more conventional mission? The Malaysian army in the meantime has set about re-writing completely its doctrine although it would seem the effort is more to introduce an indigenous content than to rely on foreign inputs on which existing doctrine is based. That effort itself, even if creditable, seems questionable since doctrine should be based on experience and not merely ideas thought up in the staff colleges.

Although it has recently been admitted that more equipment should be purchased for the navy and air force, it has to be noted that the army has enjoyed a *prima donna* status in the MAF by virtue of an institutional head-start and the role it has played in earlier domestic and external challenges. With a present strength of 36 battalions, within the army itself it has been the infantry that has enjoyed a pre-eminence not only in getting what it wants but also in occupying leadership slots in the MAF. And within the infantry, it has really been the Royal Malay Regiment that has enjoyed an exalted status. It is pertinent, though, to note that the MAF is a tri-service force and that there has been a unifying ethos in the officer corps - service rivalries do exist but this is not unfamiliar as in any military force.

The primary role of the army or more appropriately the infantry in Malaysia has been a contributory factor in the consolidation of the MAF primarily as a ground fighting machine and also in its steady evolution, but rapid advances in military technology and tactics necessitates a re-thinking in strategy and tasks. The changing composition of the army to include tanks and APCs is but an indicator of increasing its ability to fight in open spaces and in increasing its mobility, but what is the operational mode in which the army will fight as a whole? Similarly, expansion has been concomitant with re-organisation to allow the emergence of a corps and additional divisions but are such changes an integral part of battle strategy or mere restructuring? Malaysia's defence posture is not only one in which a conventional war scenario is germane but the declaration of the extended economic zone (EEZ) and the very geographical division (of the nation) into two parts denotes the important roles of the navy and air force and not just an emphasis on the army.

But what is the conventional war scenario? Who is the enemy? Should defence include protection of real estate that have no economic or military value? Are troops being trained to be able to meet the attacking tactics of any enemy force? Is there sufficient coordination in the tri-service force? These are only some of the questions that one can raise as the MAF prepares for a conventional war setting in the 1980s. Their importance is perhaps underscored by the fact that defence plans have to be based on such answers and even assumptions in the new roles of the MAF. What is perhaps disturbing is that there appears to be no overall rationale for the expansion and modernisation of the MAF which would allow for proper analysis and evaluation of past and ongoing experiences. Although the army has carried out over the last few years a series of exercises code-named "GONZALES" in an attempt to familiarise its units with a conventional war scenario, it is not even apparent if lessons are being learnt, mistakes identified and assessed and innovations to overcome problems thought out and introduced. It is obvious as well that no real tri-service operation or exercise has yet been attempted. But even more important, there is a dire need for a defence white paper to justify the huge costs now involved in the PERISTA of the MAF.

AUSTRALIAN DEVELOPMENT AID TO CONTINUE TO 1985

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 17 Nov 83 p 20

[Article by Tony Pe. Rimando]

[Text]

PAGADIAN CITY — The multi-million peso Philippine-Australian Development Assistance Program (PADAP) will end in 1985 and not in 1984 as earlier reported by some quarters, it was jointly announced by Engr. Toribio Quinalayo and W. J. K. Haslam, PADAP Filipino and Australian project directors, respectively.

PADAP, which started in 1974, has been involved in massive economic development ventures in Zamboanga del Sur, particularly in the construction of roads, bridges, irrigation systems, wharves and ports as well as in agricultural, forestry, fishery, animal and waterworks development projects designed to uplift the socio-economic life of Muslim-Christian farmers.

Haslam said the termination of the program at the end of 1985 is stated in the Memorandum of understanding between the Australian and Philippine governments.

"This is a bilateral agreement and I see no reason why the program should be terminated be-

fore the agreed date," said Haslam.

Quinalayo said the report about the early termination of PADAP must have been triggered by the ongoing institutionalization process of the program where most of its functions are now being transferred to the Zamboanga del Sur provincial government and various government agencies concerned.

Quinalayo said the increased involvement of the provincial and other government agencies in the PADAP, like the transfer of major infrastructure works to the provincial engineer's office, should not be taken as a prelude to the cutting short of the program.

The transfer, he explained, is a part of an overall design to improve the capability and capacity of local offices to handle projects originally undertaken by PADAP.

Quinalayo added that what were being transferred to local government agencies were only the functions as the funding of these projects was still with PADAP.

LOCAL BANKS REACT TO CENTRAL BANK FOREIGN EXCHANGE ORDER

Manila THE MANILA PAPER in English 7-13 Nov 83 pp 1, 8

[Text]

Manila, Philippines (AP)

- The Central Bank ordered all of the nation's banks to sell it 80 percent of their foreign exchange receipts to help the beleaguered government of President Ferdinand E. Marcos pay for its external debts and oil imports.

In a circular, CB governor Jaime Laya said any amount not required for the "pool" will be returned to the banking system to meet the banks' own trade-related obligations and for priority imports "in accordance with guidelines" to be formulated by a joint committee of private bankers and the Central Bank.

Laya said the banks are required to sell the Central Bank foreign exchange receipts from merchandise trade, services and transfers, but not private bank deposits.

Executives of some of the country's major banks protested the order, saying they agreed the

government needed assistance, they felt the mandatory sale of 80 percent of foreign exchange receipts was too much.

"Some here around 40 percent would do it," one banker told reporters on condition he or his bank not be identified.

He said the measure would defeat the government's announced policy of increasing exports because the banks may not have enough foreign exchange to cover letters of credit for the import of raw materials needed for the manufacture of these exports.

He said he had "misgivings" about the system of allocating back to the banks the U.S. dollars not needed for the Central Bank's foreign exchange pool, which also will be used to finance imports of grain, fertilizer and the foreign exchange costs of public utilities.

"We all have sad memories of similar things in the past", he said, alluding

to the millions of pesos in taxpayers' money the government poured into faltering corporations owned by friends of Marcos. He feared the same thing might happen to banks identified with Marcos and his wife Imelda.

"If 'penalized' is too strong a word, then 'unfair' is the least thing you can call it," the banker said. In effect he added, banks that have been efficient and judicious in the use of resources will be subsidizing inefficient ones.

Another banker complained that while the Bankers Association of the Philippines expected to go over a draft of the Central Bank's circular, its recent meeting was presented with a circular dated Oct. 24 and effective Oct. 25.

Meanwhile, the Presidential palace announced a series of other dollar-saving measures involving banks on the use of foreign exchange to pay

foreign currencies, as prices in international sports competitions, and for the importation of non-essential goods.

The announcement specified higher and lower traditional trade imports for Christmas supplies, sugar and chestnuts. It also imports of canned fish - the staple along with rice in most rural areas - and meat also will be restricted.

The Philippines, saddled with a deficit of \$1.4 billion in its balance of payments, devalued the pesos by 21 per cent earlier this month as a condition for additional standby credit from the International Monetary Fund.

Prime Minister Cesar Virata, who also is finance minister, said recently the country's foreign reserves were down to \$500 million and its payments deficit was expected to increase by \$600 million by the end of the year.

'SIGNIFICANT VOLUME' OF GOLD SOLD FOR FOREIGN EXCHANGE

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 16 Nov 83 p 13

[Article by Samuel Senoren]

[Text] The Philippines has sold a significant volume of its gold production in the international market in what appears to be a desperate effort to raise foreign exchange to meet external payments and shore up the level of international reserve.

Industry sources disclosed that from January to October this year, the Philippines sold a total of about 325,000 troy ounces in the international metals market.

Of the shipments during the 10-month period, about 198,000 ounces were disposed of in September and October in a period marked by a serious foreign exchange crisis.

Prime Minister Cesar Virata confirmed two weeks ago that some gold shipment was made in early September.

According to sources, the September shipment consisted of 97,100 ounces.

This was followed by another shipment of slightly more than 100,000 ounces, in October, sources added.

The exact value of the export shipments could not be immediately determined.

Based on prevailing rates however, the price of gold hovered at around \$415 per ounce in September, then dropped to about \$395 in October.

November price quotes stand at about \$382 per ounce.

Early this month when the international reserve stood at about \$430 million. Virata said that of this amount, about \$250 million consisted of gold holdings.

The international reserve of the Central Bank consists mainly of foreign investments, demand deposits and gold holdings.

Sources said that in 1982, the Philippines also exported a total of about 707,000 ounces of gold.

The 1982 sale exceeded production for the year which reached a record 338,000 ounces, according to industry figures.

Since 1977 when the Philippines started building up its gold inventory, it had made known its plan not to sell its gold production in the international market.

CSO: 4200/208

CENTRAL BANK TO RETURN PORTION OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 18 Nov 83 p 10

[Text]

COMMERCIAL banks will get back one-half of one percent of foreign exchange they surrender to the Central Bank to take care of retail foreign exchange payments.

This means that a bank that surrenders \$1 million will get back \$5,000 to take care of its foreign exchange needs.

The CB said yesterday the banks will get back foreign exchange for operating expenses of their foreign branches and offices, reinsurance premium, airline revenue remittances, shipping wharfage dues, business travel, telecommunications remittances, extremely necessary medical care abroad and for scholarships which are funded by local institutions.

Under CB Circular No. 970 (dated Nov. 4, 1983), commercial banks were required to turn in to the CB all foreign exchange receipts to form part of a pool of foreign exchange resources.

The pooled foreign exchange will be utilized to meet payments for priority imports, namely, crude oil, raw material supplies, spare parts and other inputs of export products, essential grain imports, and raw

materials of vital domestic industries.

COVERED by Circular No. 970 are foreign exchange receipts from export bills, services, transfers and over-the-counter transactions and other similar receipts which are credited to "Due from Foreign Banks" accounts.

The CB said peso payments for foreign exchange surrendered to the CB will be in accordance with the following formula:

- The guiding rate plus one percent for that portion of foreign exchange surrendered and used to pay for oil imports prorated according to payments for oil imports from the pool; and

- The guiding rate plus 1-3/4 percent for that portion of the foreign exchange used for non-oil payments, prorated according to such payments.

All sales to the CB for the pool will be immediately credited at the guiding rate plus one percent. Reimbursement for the additional 3/4 percent used for non-oil payments shall be made at the end of the month after accounts made from the pool for oil and non-oil purposes have been computed and prorated.

BIGORNIA ON LOCAL IRANIAN MISSION 'TO SPREAD ISLAMIC REVOLUTION'

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 16 Nov 83 p 6

[Column by Jesus Bigornia: "Presence of Iran 'Students' Here Cause for Alarm"]

[Text] QUICK to react to even more overtones of home-grown subversion, the Philippines' intelligence community appears insensitive to an imported revolution. Alarm bells set off in education circles about the mushrooming number of Iranian "students" in this country seem not to have registered with either the military or the police. Participation of many of these "students" in recent rallies and violent demonstrations has drawn no protest from government. From all visible official actions, the Iranian "presence" is dismissed as no threat to the security of the country. But a recent editorial of the Iranian magazine, "Payan-e-Vandat", a weekly publication of the Iranian Islamic Association in the Philippines, reveals their true mission here: To spread Islamic revolution in the Philippines.

"As of today, more than five million pieces of propaganda materials have been published in the form of books, articles, manifestos and pamphlets on revolution," the editorial says. These we have distributed among our Filipino Moslem brothers in this country and we say that we have awakened them from their slumber. We have succeeded in enlightening and effectively provoking the Filipino masses--Moslems and Christians alike--to take overt actions against the corrupt regime of prostitutes and dictator. We have witness them stage grand demonstrations and rallies all over the country and most recently in Cebu. They have learned what we taught them in the art and science of revolution and can proudly say now that they have already established their underground movements patterned after the one we started in Iran."

By their own words, the members of the pro-Khomeini Iranian Islamic Association here have convicted themselves of treason against their host country. They have forfeited the privilege of staying here. Their leaders, at least, should be rounded up, investigated for fomenting revolution among Filipinos and, if found guilty, jailed or deported. Government has enough security headaches as it is to be further burdened with the Iranian threat. Since the military has been so assiduous in internal house-cleaning, it should be as diligent in purging evil foreign influence from the nation's body politic.

CANADIAN, MALAYSIAN ENVOYS PRESENT CREDENTIALS ; CANADIAN AID ASSURED

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 16 Nov 83 p 3

[Text] THE CANADIAN government assured President Marcos yesterday of its continued participation in the economic development of the country.

The assurance was given by Ambassador Reginald Dorrett, who presented his credentials as ambassador of Canada to the Philippines. He replaced Ambassador Edward L. Bobinski.

The President later also received the credentials of Ambassador Datuk Ismail Bin Budin as ambassador of Malaysia to the Philippines. Budin replaced Ambassador Dato Ismail Mohamed.

"We in Canada are greatly impressed by your continued development and achievements and I want to assure you of our commitment to continue to participate in your economic growth," Ambassador Dorrett said.

DORRETT said trade, investment, development and cooperation are the key elements in the relations between Canada and the Philippines.

He added that he is looking forward to increased growth of commercial relations, between the two countries based on "firmer and stronger ties."

The new Canadian envoy also cited the Filipino immigrants, who now rank fifth largest among foreigners in Canada, for contributing substantially to the economic and cultural growth of Canada.

IN HIS response, the President said the Philippines with her ASEAN partners, has made steady progress in spite of adverse world economic conditions.

The President said he is proud of the support being given by Filipinos to the national leadership, as well as the cooperation extended by countries like Canada, "which have made our efforts and sacrifices worthwhile."

He also said he was glad to hear of the contributions of Filipinos in Canada to the development of that country and of their having been accepted by the Canadians. He said this will provide a greater opportunity for the two peoples to understand each other better and foster deeper bonds of friendship.

REUBAN CANOY VIEWS OPTIONS TO MARCOS

Manila THE MANILA PAPER in English 31 Oct-6 Nov 83 pp 1, 8

[Text] IN THIS COLUMN last week, we enumerated the alternatives or options advanced by concerned Filipino leaders for a return to political normalcy. Briefly stated, they are:

1. Perpetuation of the Marcos regime;
2. Cardinal Sin's proposal for a National Council on Reconciliation to advise Marcos;
3. The UNIDO and NP proposal for the resignation of Marcos and the establishment of a transition or caretaker government;
4. My own suggestion for Marcos to resign and the military along with credible civilian leaders to function as a caretaker government, only for the purpose of restoring order, calling a constitutional convention and holding general elections for President down to the last barangay official under the new constitution;

5. A *coup d'etat* or total military take-over;
6. Revolution and the violent overthrow of the Marcos regime, as advocated by the communists and radical races.

LET US NOW examine the pros and cons of these options and see which of them offers the best possibilities for the peaceful and orderly restoration of democratic government.

ALTERNATIVE NO. 1 under which Marcos remains in power until his

dying day, finds strong support in two groups of people: those who benefit from his rule, and those who argue that it is safer to deal with a known evil than an untested one. As an American official put it recently: "We don't want a Khomeini to come into power in the Philippines."

ALTERNATIVE NO.2, Cardinal Sin's proposal for a National Council on Reconciliation, has great moral and religious appeals. Not only does it epitomize the Christian

precept of loving one's enemies, but it also fulfills Ninoy's aborted political mission. Most of all, it is based on the realistic appraisal that Marcos will not easily yield the power he has worked so hard to acquire.

BUT AS I have pointed out time and again, how can the powerless presume to advise the powerful? Marcos has, in fact, made it resoundingly clear that: "I am not against an advisory council, but I am against any ambitious private group trying to exercise political power without the mandate of the people. Advisory, why not? I will listen to all advices coming from anyone, whether friend or foe, irrespective of how lacking in wisdom they may be. I will listen, but after listening I reserve to the government and to the presidency the power to decide what should be done in order to maintain peace and order in our country."

FROM THIS, IT'S quite obvious that the Council on Reconciliation will be nothing but an impotent, decorative fixture, a miniature replica of the ineffectual Interim Batasang Pambansa. To pin inordinate hopes on it

is to raise public expectations beyond reason, thereby inducing widespread despair when the exercise ends in failure -- as I believe it will.

UNDER ONE-MAN RULE, majority of Filipinos regard Marcos as an overstaying president. The phrase *sobra na* is used by many to describe the long existence as well as the excesses of his regime. Since they perceive him as the symbol of bad government, anyone who collaborates with him at once becomes suspect of having entered into a pact with the devil. In fact, when Ninoy Aquino was first reported to have decided to end his American exile, some people actually believed that his coming home was part of a deal he had struck with Marcos through the First Lady.

LIKE THE MEMBERS of the ill-received Fernando Commission, I am afraid that the members of the proposed National Council on Reconciliation will also end up with sullied reputations and nothing whatsoever to show for their sacrifice.

Marcos on the other hand, will have gained precious time to weather the storm caused by the Aquino assassination.

PHILIPPINES

ECONOMIC HARDSHIPS HIT MORE BUSINESSES

Manufacturing Slows Down

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 16 Nov 83 p 10

[Excerpt] MORE local manufacturing firms have started to slow down their operations because of depleted stocks of raw materials, industry sources said yesterday.

Several garment makers, textile firms and soap manufacturers, they said, have scaled down their operations below normal capacity to stretch out their dwindling raw material supplies.

The slow down in operations began last week when information filtered out of the Central Bank that no import letters-of-credit can be opened soon because of lack of foreign exchange.

THE garments industry needs fabrics as raw materials while the textile mills import most of their requirements of fiber like cotton, nylon and polyester. Soap manufacturers, meanwhile, use petrochemicals in their operations.

With the forced slowdown, these industries hope to continue operations till the middle of next month, sources said.

EARLIER reports have it that all local car manufacturers have scaled down their activities because of their depleted CKDs (completely knocked-down) kits.

Five Tuna Exporters Close

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 16 Nov 83 p 10

[Text] RISING fuel cost and other adverse factors have forced five of the top 15 local tunna exporters to close shop and five other outfits to shift to fishing for domestic consumption and culture prawns.

The five that have ceased operations were RJI Martinez Fishing Corp., the second biggest in the industry and its subsidiary, Peninsula Fishing Corp.; Bonaventure Fishing Corp.; Eastgate Export Corp. and Fortuna Mariculture Corp.

These companies accounted for a total tuna export of 703,526 kilos worth P6.44 million as of July 1981.

THE Federation of Fishing Association attributed these closures to:

--High fuel cost aggravated by the ban on fishing within seven kilometers from shoreline, a traditional fishing ground;

--Decline in world fish prices, particularly of yellow fin tuna.

--Stiff competition posed by Spain in the European market, biggest market for Philippine tuna;

--Introduction of 18 new superseiners supplied by the United States to Mexico. The ships were acquired through oil purchase.

The prices of skipjack, or small tuna, have dropped to \$640 per metric ton from \$1,000 and up to 1981. Yellowfin tuna prices, have remained at \$1,100 or below per metric ton as against 1981 prices of from \$1,600 to \$1,800 per metric ton.

THE local tuna companies that have shifted to catching tuna for domestic consumption were: Seascope Development Corp; AA Export & Import Corp; Orient Marine & Fishing Corp; RBL Fishing Corp, and the Philippine Aquatic Inc. These companies had a combined tuna exports of 1.11 million kilograms worth P12.06 million as of July 1981.

Of the remaining five, tuna exporters, the biggest, Ricsan Development Corp., has just resumed operations this year after it restructured its P80-million obligation from five banks. It suspended operations in 1982.

Another exporter, Restylin Fisheries Development Corp., is gearing its production for local canneries.

The three remaining tuna exporters are: Frabelle Fishing Corp., GAF Export and Import Corp. and Agro Sources Fishing Corp.--Rose de la Cruz

CSO: 4200/209

UNEMPLOYMENT, BUSINESS FAILURES EXPECTED TO WORSEN

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 17 Nov 83 pp 1, 8

[Text]

The country's unemployment problem is expected to worsen in the next few months in view of the increasing number of business firms applying for clearance to shut down operations.

Labor Ministry figures showed that from January to November this year, 662 business firms stopped their operations as a result of the current economic crisis. A total of 37,807 workers have been terminated, 23,332 of them in Metro Manila.

Ministry officials said the closure of the 662 business establishments was triggered by lack of raw materials and the peso devaluation.

In Southern Luzon and the Visayas, business firms are reportedly laying off a considerable number of their workers due to high cost of labor.

Labor Minister Ople said most firms in Southern Luzon and the Visayas could not afford to comply with the latest order increasing the basic

minimum wage and the cost of living allowance by P6.50.

MOLE reports showed that most of the workers being terminated come from the manufacturing industry (26,457), followed by agriculture (5,154) and transport (1,650).

Ministry officials said they expect more workers to be terminated before the end of the year if the current business climate does not change.

Ople, however, remained optimistic about the employment prospect for next year, saying that the country's economy will bounce back.

He said the termination of workers was only temporary. There is no reason for businessmen and workers to despair because the government is still on top of the situation, he said.

EXPORT PRODUCTION PRIORITY PLAN ISSUED

Manila: BULLETIN TODAY In English 17 Nov 83 p 10

[Article by Samuel Señoren]

[Text]

Commercial banks have been directed by the Central Bank to open letters of credit and allocate corresponding foreign exchange on a highest priority basis in favor of both direct and indirect export producers to enable them to import vital raw materials.

Both export producers were given first priority in having access to the CB foreign exchange pool along with domestic producers of eight product categories proposed by the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry and recommended by the Board of Investments.

The priority scale is contained in CB operating guidelines implementing Circular 970 which created the foreign exchange pool.

The guidelines issued by CB Gov.

Jaime Laya on Nov. 14 provide that:

Under first priority, vital raw materials imports covered include petroleum and petrochemical-based products, food grains and food products (milk and frozen beef for processing), fertilizers and pesticides, medicinal and pharmaceutical products, textile fibers for basic clothing, livestock (breeding stock, soy, fish and bone meal), iron and steel products, and paper products.

Second priority shall be given to domestic producers-importers requiring imported raw materials, spare parts and supplies (EP and SEP category) for the manufacture of products other than those covered under first priority.

Third priority shall be given to domestic producers requiring raw materials, spare parts and supplies (NEP, NEC, SEC, SEP, SUP, UP) neces-

sary to complete the manufacture of products under first priority cover.

In opening L/Cs, banks were also directed to observe evaluation standards, as follows:

—Top priority shall be given in each category to import requirements of export producers with substantial net foreign exchange earnings.

—Import applicants are required to certify to the CIF (cost, insurance, freight) value of raw materials and supplies imported in 1981 and 1982 and their net foreign exchange earnings.

—Applications for authority to import shall be limited to raw materials spare parts and supplies and the allowable amount shall be limited to the average quarterly requirements of the applicant's export products.

CENTRAL BANK RELEASES \$50 MILLION FOR NEW CREDIT

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 16 Nov 83 p 13

[Article by Loreto Cabanes]

[Text] The Central Bank made available to the banking system yesterday an initial \$50 million for the opening of new import letters of credit (L/Cs) under the new system of foreign exchange allocation launched by the CB.

Governor Jaime C. Laya said part of the \$50 million came from the economic support fund of the United States government which approved an initial release of \$36 million.

Although still a trickle compared to the requirements of importers, the initial amount should pave the way for the renewal of trade lines by Philippine banks with selected correspondent banks overseas.

Laya said that the amount was prorated among the commercial banks according to the amount of foreign exchange turned in by the banks of the CB under Circular No. 970.

Under the new system, the local banks may open new L/Cs for importation of raw materials provided the foreign bank concerned agrees to resume normal trade transactions with the local banks.

A maturing L/C may be paid from this initial amount on the condition that the foreign bank agrees to open in new L/C for the importation of raw materials by Philippines importers.

The CB released two sets of guidelines to the commercial banks yesterday governing the procedure for the approval of payments under the system.

The guidelines follow the usual procedure for the banks to screen and evaluate all applications for L/Cs and other payments.

The bank is also given the discretion to approve the same based on the priority of payments enumerated by the CB under Circular No. 970, which directed all the commercial banks to sell their foreign exchange receipts for pesos to the CB.

A committee at the CB reviews the L/Cs and payments given due course by the banks. If the committee finds a certain L/C or payment to be outside of the priority enumerated under Circular No. 970, the bank would be penalized by a corresponding reduction in its future foreign exchange allocation.

Banking sources disclosed yesterday the \$50 million initially released by the CB to the system could be used mostly for the opening of new L/Cs for raw materials of factories.

The foreign exchange requirements for the importation of oil have been provided for by the CB and other arrangements like the extension of longer-term supplier's credit by parent companies of oil firms.

Under Circular No. 970, the following are considered priority in the allocation of foreign exchange from the CB pool: (1) Oil imports; (2) Official development assistance loan payments; (3) Trade-related payments for inputs to export products, raw materials for vital industries, and food grains; (4) Interest on bank loans; and (5) Interbank loans and trade related credit payments.

CSO: 4200/208

PALAWAN GETS KKK LOANS

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 19 Nov 83 p 28

[Article by Owen Masaganda]

[Text]

PUERTO PRINCESA CITY — Some ₱2.8 million pesos in loans for the Palawan Kilusang Kabuhayan at Kaunlaran projects have been released by the Philippine National Bank with the Balabac Fishing Association getting lion share (₱594,000) of the funds.

Natural Resources Minister Teodoro Q. Peña presented the checks to Balabac

fishermen. He was assisted by Gov. Salvador Socrater and City Mayor Feliberto Oliveros.

Juan Baylon, local PNB branch manager, told the Bulletin that the PNB will supervise the collections and remittances of KKK borrowers. The Ministry of Human Settlements processed and approved the applications for loans, Baylon said.

CSO: 4200/210

PALAY PRICE RAISED TO AID FARMERS

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 17 Nov 83 pp 1, 8

[Text]

The Cabinet has approved the earlier implementation of increased buying price for palay on Dec. 1 to ensure that the benefits of better prices will go to farmers rather than traders.

This was learned from telegrams sent to Central Luzon farmer's associations yesterday by Labor Minister Blas F. Ople.

Ople had sought a Cabinet decision on the complaint of farmers from Central Luzon, Cagayan Valley, and Southern Tagalog that they would not benefit from the new palay prices if these were to take effect next January or February as originally planned.

The exact amount of price increase will be determined by an inter-ministerial committee headed by the minister of agriculture. The committee will submit its recommendation to the next meeting of the Cabinet.

The Pambansang Katipunan ng mga Samahang

Nayon (PKSN) has recommended a 28 per cent increase from ₱1.80 to ₱2.30 per kilo of palay in view of the recent peso devaluation, but a technical group of the National Food Authority was proposing a price of ₱2.07.

In defending the accelerated increase for palay prices, Ople said harvesting of the present palay crop had already started in Central Luzon and will likely be over by December. He said the farmers' costs of production already reflect the higher prices of inputs and that his earnings "constitute the equivalent of a fair and honest wage as well as his capital for continuing to be productive."

The final Cabinet decision will be submitted to the President for approval.

In moving for the Cabinet action, Ople said he also spoke for acting Agriculture Minister Orlando

Sacay, acting Food Minister Pablo Pablo of the National Food Authority, Agrarian Reform Minister Conrado F. Estrella, Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile, and Natural Resources Minister Teodoro Q. Peña.

Enrile and Peña were quoted as saying that the farmers in Cagayan Valley and Southern Tagalog were already restive over the failure to increase the prices of their crop at a time when most products had been allowed to go up.

Earlier, Ople and Sacay had met with various farmers' groups from Central Luzon in San Miguel, Bulacan under the auspices of PKSN. They received a resolution addressed to President Marcos requesting for an immediate increase in the floor price of palay.

MANILA ELECTRIC ANNOUNCES RATE INCREASES

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 16 Nov 83 pp 1, 8

[Text] The Manila Electric Co. (Meralco) announced yesterday that power rates will increase anew within a three-month period starting this November to fully reflect the effects of the Oct. 5 peso devaluation and the subsequent upward adjustment in the price of fuel oil.

Meralco said the devaluation of the peso to P14 to a US dollar increased the cost of electricity purchased from the National Power Corp. by 6 centavos per kilowatt-hour (kwh) last month.

The public utility said the increase from 61 centavos per kwh in September to 67 centavos per kwh in October has already been included in the bills of Meralco customers this month.

Meralco continued that the full effect of the peso devaluation and the increase in the domestic price of fuel oil approved by the Board of Energy (BOE) will further increase the cost to 81 centavos per kwh this month.

In December, it said NPC's billing will further go up to 85 centavos per kwh to "fully reflect the increase in the domestic price of fuel oil." BOE raised the price of fuel oil along with other petroleum products by P1 per liter.

By January next year, Meralco said, its currency exchange rate adjustment (CERA) will increase by another 1.5 centavos per kwh due to the recent devaluation. The CERA, according to Meralco, partially offsets foreign-exchange-related increases in its cost of operation.

The utility franchise said, however, that as in the past and in accordance with the socialized pricing policy, the first 200 kwh consumption of all residential customers and the first 90 kwh of small commercial users within Metro Manila are not affected by these increases.

It said the rates of government-owned hospitals and streetlights are also not affected by the increases. Meralco said around 580,000 residential customers who do not consume more than 200 kwh a month are exempted from the adjustment.

To cover the cost of subsidy, Meralco explained that for every centavo increase in the price of electricity purchased from NPC, 1.5 centavos are passed on to commercial and industrial customers as well as residential consumptions exceeding the subsidized level.

Meralco reiterated that its own basic rates have not been increased since December, 1981 except for a 1.5-centavo per kwh increase in its CERA during the period.

CSO: 4200/208

COCONUT ASSOCIATION CITES DISAPPEARANCE OF COPRA

Manila THE MANILA PAPER in English 7-13 Nov 83 p 2

[Text] Manila, (AFP)--The effects of last year's eight-month drought have now become "visible" in the domestic market as copra had "practically disappeared," the United Coconut Association of the Philippines (UCAP) said.

The association noted that this had resulted in a rising trend in prices and said dealers are today quoting P470 per 100 kg. against yesterday's P450 for delivery to Manila oil mills.

"But so far sellers continued to remain on the sidelines," UCAP said.

"The recent peso devaluation has also fueled the disappearance of copra as sellers opt for positions to take advantage of expected future higher prices," it added.

Last year's production was 2.1 million tons. Coconut is the leading export of the Philippines.

The association reported that in the provinces, millgate delivery asking price today was between 430 450 pesos for every 100 kg. while buying stations wanted 420-430 pesos per 100 kg.

CSO; 4200/208

AGUSAN NATIONALISTAS, KBL SIGN 'POLITICAL COVENANT'

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 16 Nov 83 p 28

[Excerpt] Top leaders of the Kilusang Bagong Lipunan and the Nacionalista Party in the two Agusan provinces and Butuan City cast aside over the weekend their longstanding political quarrel and agreed to work together for national reconciliation and unity.

The political "covenant" was signed by former Rep. Democrito O. Plaza, KBL leader in Agusan del Sur, together with his wife, Agusan del Sur Gov. Valentia G. Plaza and Mayor Figurado O. Plaza of Butuan City, while former Rep. and Butuan City Mayor Guillermo R. Sanchez and Assemblyman and former ConCon delegate Edelmiro A. Amante of Agusan del Sur signed in behalf of the Nacionalistas in the two provinces and city.

Foremost consideration in the political union of the Plazas and the Sanchez group was the restoration of peace and harmony among their followings. They also agreed to put up a common front against greed, corruption, and discord sown by some politicians in the Agusan area.

Former Congressman Plaza said "it is time to restore the faith, confidence and respect of the people in the government under the administration of President Marcos."

Sanchez urged the Nacionalistas to again close ranks and rally behind the efforts to root out scoundrels and political scalawags who have brought shame and dishonor to the people of Agusan and Butuan City.

CSO: 4200/208

DEFENSE MINISTRY OFFICIAL INTERVIEWED ON DETAINEES

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 13 Nov 83 Sunday Supplement pp 12, 13, 48, 49

[Replies to questionnaire sent to Col Eduardo R. Ermita of the Ministry of National Defense Office for Detainee Affairs]

[Text]

Q. The Minister of National Defense has been quoted in the past as denying the existence of political detainees. Does not the existence of an Office for Detainee Affairs belie the Minister's position?

A. We see no inconsistency between the statements of Minister Enrile denying the existence of political detainees, on one hand, and the existence of an Office for Detainee Affairs (ODA) in the Ministry, on the other. What Minister Enrile has publicly stated is that no person has been detained merely on the basis of his or her political beliefs and that all those detained are charged with crimes against national security and public order as provided for by law. The need to closely monitor the administration of these detainees and the status of their cases justifies the continued existence of the ODA. It is wrong to assume that ODA was created to oversee

the administration of "political detainees," as the question would appear to suggest.

Q. Five women interviewed by *Panorama*--Cecilia Benosa, Celia Canonigo, Helen Mansos, Cristina Montiel and Rose Palma--all claim that their husbands, political detainees all, were subjected to severe torture by military men after their arrest. Would you care to comment on the women's allegations?

A. Many of those in the same situation have aired charges of torture and maltreatment which were later proven untrue. If they would give more specifics, ODA is prepared to investigate their complaints.

Q. Most of the Metro Manila detainees belong to the urban poor sector of society and many of them, until their arrest, were the sole breadwinners of their families. Their prolonged detention has robbed their

families of their one hope of economic survival. The meager assistance that the families receive from sympathetic groups and organizations is barely enough to sustain them from day to day, not to mention the added expenses entailed by their visits to the detainees and by their efforts to work for their husbands' release. Could your office not make life easier for these families; for instance, by not requiring the detainees' spouses to apply for a conjugal pass month after month?

A. It is not our policy to make life difficult for the detainees, but we have to adhere strictly to security procedures that are necessary to protect the interest of the state. The problem of economic survival is one that is faced by families of detainees and prisoners all over the world and cannot be an absolute justification for the release of persons from detention, although in some instances, humanitarian considerations are applied on a case-to-case basis. With regards to conjugal visits, we believe that to require the spouse to apply for a maximum number of three visits every month on a monthly basis is not at all oppressive or unfair. We think this adequately satisfies the accepted standards of humane treatment. However, Minister Enrile has directed that the policy be further studied with the view to render it more liberal and lenient.

Q. What procedure is observed when one is following up or working for the release of one's de-

tained relative? How long does the entire process normally take?

A. One may write the Chief, ODA, who happens to be Minister Enrile himself. The ODA then refers the request to military authorities for comment, unless the Minister of National Defense on his own sees fit to recommend the release of the detainees concerned directly to the President. One may follow up release papers at any level. At the ministry level, inquiries regarding detainees may be addressed to ODA. At the level of the Office of the President, Brig. Gen. Santiago Barangan, commanding general of the Presidential Security Command, has been designated by the President to handle such queries. The length of time that the whole process would take depends on various factors, like the status of the case of the individual involved and his ranking and past activities in the subversive movement.

Q. According to *Panorama* sources, 39 workers/unionists have been arrested and detained since August 1982 on charges of being "subversives" or "economic saboteurs." These men and women have been detained for more than a year. *Panorama* was told that the prospect of their being released is brighter than for many of the other detainees because the charges against them are lighter. Is there no way their release could be facilitated so they can go back to being their families' breadwinners?

A. If you can give us the names of the detainees, we will provide

you with the status of their cases.

Q. *Pambantu* was told that the participation of detainees in fasts and hunger strikes, designed to draw public attention to their plight and to their conditions in detention, are taken by the military establishment as gestures of protest (as are such actions as the shaving of one's head in summer) and will militate against their earlier release. Please comment.

A. They are indeed gestures of protest and our policy has always been that the government should not buckle down under such pressure being exerted by the detainees.

Q. Before martial law was lifted in 1981, the detainees were allowed visits from relatives and friends. Since the lifting of martial law, however, visitors have been limited to immediate members of the detainees' families. Why is this so?

A. This is not true. Detainees may be visited by relatives and friends upon clearance by the Minister of National Defense.

Q. Now that the peso has been devalued further, should not the detainees' food allowance of P6 daily be increased?

A. The policy of humane treatment dictates that the detainees must have enough food to fill their nutritional requirements. This is the guiding consideration in the evaluation of the adequacy of their food allowance.

Q. How do you feel about the current clamor from many sectors for general amnesty for all political detainees?

A. Again, I would like to reiterate our position that there are no political detainees in our country and all those detained are charged with crimes against national security and public order as provided for by law. At any rate, the question of amnesty is one that lies within the sole prerogatives of the President.

Q. How do you personally feel about the plight of the political detainees and their families?

A. Personally, they have my sympathy. But overriding this personal feeling is the need for our total commitment to an imperative—that of upholding the majesty of the law; whether or not they have committed a transgression of the law is a matter addressed to the sound determination of the courts of our land. ●

TRAINING PROGRAM FOR MUSLIMS NOW TAKING APPLICATIONS

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 18 Nov 83 p 10

[Text]

The Ministry of Muslim Affairs (MMA) is conducting a series of manpower training programs for Muslim youths who want to be employed both here and overseas.

Muslim Affairs Minister Romulo M. Espaldon said that at least 100 qualified Muslim youths are accommodated quarterly to undertake the training which is aimed at increasing the productivity level of the Muslim community.

Minister Espaldon added that the project is being undertaken in coordination with the National Manpower and Youth Council (NMYC). This is one of the major steps undertaken by the national leadership in accelerating the economic growth and development of the Muslim community, he said.

Bayani Sappari, chairman of the NMYC training admission, said the program offers courses in electrical, automotive and hi-speed and industrial sewing machine operations.

Sappari added that applicants may apply at the NMYC training center in Taguig or at the MMA Bureau of Muslim Economic Affairs office in Mandaluyong, Metro Manila.

Successful trainees will be assisted by the MMA in job placement. The Muslim ministry is in close coordination with the Saudi recruiting office in Manila and the Philippine Overseas Employment Authority on placement of Muslim workers in the Middle East, particularly Saudi Arabia.

STUDY SUGGESTS MILITARY AUTHORITY MAY BE PERMANENT

Manila THE MANILA PAPER in English 14-20 Nov 33 pp 1, 8

[Text]

MANILA, PHILIPPINES

A political scientist from the University of the Philippines in Diliman, Quezon City said civilian authority is no longer supreme in the country and that the expansion of the military in 1972

in size, budget, privileges, and responsibility - appears to have tipped the equation in favor of the military.

Carolina G. Hernandez, chairman of the U.P. department of political science, in a paper on institution building in the Philippines, said bases for civilian control have lain

dormant and represented, and civilian control continues to rest on the person of President Marcos instead of the institution of the presidency as in the past and the military's own self-inhibition.

Hernandez attributes the situation to the removal of the forms of control over the military which were exercised by Congress, the press and the political parties.

She said the abolition of Congress in 1973 left an important gap in the political network to monitor the military behavior - "a gap not yet filled by the National Assembly"

Hernandez said continuing government control over the media has stopped the press from keeping a vigilant eye on the men in uniform.

On the AFP's size, its 55,000 strength in 1972 has grown to an estimated 250,000 force. Defense spending increased from 136 million dollars in 1972 to 808 million dollars in 1980, she said.

Hernandez also batted for a "tried mechanism for regular or periodic political success," whose absence will further tilt the power balance to the military.

CARDINAL SIN HITS 'ARROGANCE OF POWER,' 'CLIMATE OF FEAR'

Manila THE MANILA PAPER in English 31 Oct-6 Nov 83 p 4

[Column by Jaime Cardinal Sin: "People Prefer To Think No Evil, See No Evil, and Hear No Evil"]

[Text]

We are told -- and here I quote what I read in the newspapers -- that "seeing pornographic movies is part of the growing up process," "that a young person who has been inculcated with the right attitude will not be destroyed by seeing one or two bold movies," and so on. I have already commented on these statements in previous speeches, so I shall not refute them here.

Anyway, just as some of our countrymen were starting to believe that there is nothing wrong, after all, in watching pornography on the silver screen, what happens?

The people are confused. If watching pornography is wrong, why was the law requiring prior censorship as a prelude to public showing suspended? If watching pornography is right, why should the President pass a new decree, a decree, moreover, which grants more power to the reviewing body?

If pornography is wrong, then the suspension of the law was an unjustifiable abuse of authority. If pornography is not wrong, then the new presidential decree is an unwarranted limitation of the people's freedom. Either way, there is a dismaying demonstration of the arrogance of power.

The conclusion that I have reluctantly and painfully reached is that we have reached a point where people are reluctant to voice a contrary opinion. We have arrived at a situation where the voice of dissent has been completely -- or almost completely -- stifled.

I cannot believe -- I will not believe -- our society as a whole found nothing reprehensible about the showing of pornography. I cannot -- and I will not -- believe that it was right and proper that our people should feast on filmic sex. I cannot -- and I most vehemently will not -- believe that the officers and members of various Christian organizations in Manila were of one mind in that minors can watch pornography since they will not be destroyed by it.

But why was the government action met with a deafening silence?

I don't know what happened in various groups. I can only tell you that I was told that it took place in a meeting -- an emergency meeting -- of a large Catholic organization. Somebody insisted that a resolution of condemnation be passed. He was shouted down with cries like "But this is a project of the First Lady!" "That would be subversive!" or "We will all get into trouble." The result? No resolution was passed.

• • •

It is clear, that there is still a climate of fear pervading our country. It is clear that because of this climate, the people now prefer to think no evil, see no evil and hear no evil.

• • •

And what brought about this terrible climate? Might it not be a combination of factors like the closure of a paper with pronounced independent views and the arrest of its staff members? Might it not be the invitations sent out to various journalists, most of them female, which contained a veiled threat and which obviously was meant by the military to be intimidating? Might it not be the systematic campaign to discredit the Church over the issue of rebel priests? Might it not be the wave of libel suits against journalists rash enough to want to be faithful to their noble calling?

CSO: 4200/208

PIMENTEL ATTEMPT TO REGAIN OFFICE SPARKS ROW

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 19 Nov 83 p 28

[Article by Casiano Navarro, Jr]

[Text]

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY — The Ministry of Local Government blocked anew the resumption to office of Mayor Aquilino Pimentel Jr., sending the Sangguniang Panglunsod into a bitter controversy Thursday evening.

While Vice Mayor Pablo P. Magtahas and five other councilors backed Pimentel as the city mayor since Oct. 15, Kagawad Lourdes M. Laviña insisted at the council's regular session that Magtahas should takeover.

Laviña cited a letter of MLG Deputy Prime Minister Roño dated Nov. 9, saying that he was "never deviated from" the opinion contained in a previous

letter to Pimentel which directed the mayor to turnover his post to the vice mayor.

It will be recalled that when Pimentel was arrested last April 17, he instructed Magtahas to takeover and pursue his projects until he is released.

Upon his release, Pimentel announced that he was immediately taking over from Magtahas who immediately gave way.

In July 29, Minister Roño wired Pimentel, saying that the Presidential Commitment Order issued to him has not been lifted but was amended to change the place of confinement to your residence. As such there

is legal impediment to the exercise of your duties and functions in office thereby in effect suspending you as mayor."

Because of that telegram, Pimentel gave way to Magtahas but inquired from Roño on at least three occasions about his minister's bases to suspend the mayor.

Last Oct. 1, Roño told newsmen here that "Pimentel was never suspended on the basis of the civil code, but it is my belief that by the mere fact that he is under house arrest, he is in effect suspended because he cannot go to his office and visit projects."

CSO: 4200/210

WEEKLY CRITICIZES FIRST LADY'S 'PALACE'

Manila THE MANILA PAPER in English 31 Oct-6 Nov 83 pp 1, 7

[Text]

TAGAYTAY CITY
- Visitors and tourists who come to this resort city an hours drive south of Manila end up asking the same question: "What is that imposing mansion on a high ridge overlooking Taal Lake?"

Actually, it's more than that. In cost and architecture, the edifice is a virtual "Palace in the Sky" that Imelda Romualdez Marcos, wife of Philippine President Ferdinand E. Marcos, has built as a luxurious retreat.

How much the government has spent on this magnificent edifice remains a mystery. Twenty-five private bidders and developers contracted to do various aspects of the project - from landscap-

ing to interior decoration - refuse to disclose the exact amount.

One of them, requesting anonymity, says the contractors were told to go ahead with the job on the basis of plans and specifications and to bill the government after completion.

The "rush order" was given a few months ago so the "Palace in the Sky" would be ready for ex-President Ronald Reagan's visit, originally scheduled in November.

Reffers estimate the entire project, including the construction of a first-class asphalt road leading to the top of the mountain site, at no less than P100 million.

The water supply problem in Tagaytay is being solved by the Local Water Utilities Authority (LWUA) which has been

ordered by Malacañang to build a costly water system, over the objections of LWUA chief, Col. Carlos Leano and US-AID consultants who nixed the project as not viable.

According to sources close to Leano, the LWUA has no choice but to undertake construction of the system. Also on orders of Malacañang, funds will be diverted from the Philippine peso-counterpart already earmarked for other water districts.

Some 30 kilometers of pipes will be required to supply water for the Marcoses' new palace. This alone, says a LWUA engineer, will cost P12 million. Nine powerful booster pumps, each costing P1.5 million or a total of P13.5 million, will be needed to send the water up to the site.

VER CALLS FOR STRENGTHENED SECURITY

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 17 Nov 83 p 6

[Text]

Gen Fabian C Ver, AFP chief of staff, said yesterday that there is need to strengthen the country's security system in view of recent attempts to destabilize the government.

"If we do not exercise sustained vigilance," Ver said, we will be hapless victims of organized activities camouflaged as peaceful mass actions as confetti throwing, group window shopping, prayer rallies, marathons and jogging sessions."

Ver made this statement during the 2nd Asia-Pacific Industrial Security Seminar held at the Century Park Sheraton hotel.

He said the coming months will test our mettle as a people. Economic hardship always bring with it increase in crime and considerable losses, he added.

Ver said the basic concern of man is the preservation of his life and property. Security is essentially freedom from fear, freedom from apprehension.

Ver pointed out that security makes a man's life, an organization's interest and a nation's welfare protected and advanced. It is also security that is essential to national development for without it no nation can ever hope to grow and progress, Ver added.

Despite efforts of some sectors to destabilize the government, which adversely affect the country, the country remains stable, Ver declared.

These economic and other problems will soon be solved and there is no need to be afraid nor be intimidated or coerced "by the prophets of doom in our midst," Ver said.

He called upon the foreign participants in the seminar to spread the word when they return home, that the Philippines is stable and relatively peaceful, a country with considerable promise and potential, and will weather the present crisis.

AGRAVA BOARD CREDIBILITY VIEWED

Opposition Paper Questions Credibility

Manila THE MANILA PAPER in English 14-20 Nov 83 pp 5, 8

[Text]

The Fernando Commission has been replaced by the Agrava Fact-Finding Board to investigate the assassination of the late Sen. Benigno Aquino, Jr.

But is the Agrava Board an improvement on the Fernando Commission which did not possess any credibility at all because its chairman and members were too closely identified with the administration of Pres. Marcos?

Already people are wondering how former Justice Corazon Agrava of Court of Appeals and the other members of the Board were chosen by Pres. Marcos. Under the Presidential Decree creating the Board, its members are supposed to be nominated by various private sectors they are to represent.

Business Day's October 24, 1983 issue reported that Justice Agrava was appointed to represent the

Women Lawyer's Association and the Integrated Bar of the Philippines. But was there any nomination made by either of these associations? Observers doubt it, considering that the PD creating the Board was issued only on October 14, 1983 and Justice Agrava was appointed on October 22, 1983. There was no time for the lawyer members of these two groups or their officers to meet, discuss and agree on a nominee or nominees, which brings out the question of whether, assuming that there was a nomination, there were other nominees than Justice Agrava. If there were, who are they?

Dante Santos is supposed to represent the business sector and Luciano Salazar, the civic and professional groups. Again, it is being asked which business organizations, civic and professional groups nomina-

ted these gentlemen? Aside from them, were there other nominees? Considering the numerous business, civic and professional associations existing in the country, it is not possible that they could agree on a single nominee to represent them. It is not even possible for them to get together and agree on anything on so short a time.

Amado Dizon is supposed to represent the educational sector. The same questions asked about the appointment of others apply to him.

The only member whose nomination was reported in the newspapers is Ernesto Herrera. But those on the labor front point out that his association with the government and men close to the administration does not make him look like the independent, impartial and courageous proper people expect the members of the Agrava Board to be.

Herrera is the secretary-general of the Trade Union Congress of the Philippines (TUCP), which is widely regarded as pro-government. He is also secretary-general of the Associated Labor Union (ALU). Herrera is likewise a member of the Board of the Welfare Fund of the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA), a government office. ALU, of which Herrera is secretary-general, is headed by Democrito Mendoza, a Commissioner of the Social Security Commission representing labor. Mendoza is also President of TUCP. Other personalities in ALU include Assemblyman Ja-

nuario Seño, its chief legal counsel, who is a KBL sectoral assemblyman representing labor. Another ALU stalwart is Commissioner Cecilio Seño, who is Executive Vice-President of ALU and is an incumbent Commissioner of the National Labor Relations Commission.

Even Justice Agrava has connections with the government that cannot be ignored. She is the founder of Tahanan Outreach Projects and Services, Inc. (TOPS), a civic organization. TOPS has three offices, one each in Manila, Pasay City and Makati.

The Manila Office of TOPS stands on a lot donated to TOPS on February 8, 1978 by the

City of Manila through Mayor Ramon Bagatsing. TOPS-Makati is housed in a 2-storey building constructed especially for TOPS by Mayor Nemesio Yabut. TOPS-Pasay has its offices on the third floor of Pasay City Hall.

TOPS is Justice Agrava's baby. Being its Founder and President Emerita, the Justice continues to serve as its Honorary Vice-Chairman and over-all spark plug. Among the current officers of TOPS are these interesting and eye-opening names:

1. Gen. Prospero Olivas, Honorary President;
2. Teodoro Valencia,

Honorary Chairman;

3. Gregorio Cendaña, PRO.

4. Carlos Valdes, Auditor

Valencia and Cendaña are spokesmen of the administration, Valencia as a columnist and Cendaña as head of the Information Ministry. Valdes is a financial adviser of Mrs. Marcos, and also Ambassador to Japan.

Gen. Olivas is the administration's Chief Investigator of the Aquino assassination. He has steadfastly pointed to the Com-

munist as the author of the airport murder.

Amador Dizon, another member of the Agrava Board, is said to have disauthorized a symposium at the Manuel L. Quezon University that was to be sponsored by the economics class when he found out that among the invited speakers were the late former Senator Gerardo Roxas and former Senator Lorenzo M. Tañada. He was apprehensive of what these opposition men might say against the administration.

Again the question: Is the Agrava Board capable of discharging the task of courageously, fairly and

impartially investigating the Aquino assassination to the satisfaction of the Filipino people?

Considering that the military establishment and, ultimately, the administration is a suspect in this investigation, and going by the profile of its membership, including that of its chairman who seems to owe much to the powers that be, it can only be said that the Agrava Board is no better than Fernando Commission. It does not have credibility. Some even go to the extent of saying that the investigation is headed towards a whitewash.

Legal Professionals Support Agrava

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 16 Nov 83 pp 1, 8

[Article by E. B. Martinez]

[Text] Legal groups and various organizations in the private and government sectors have expressed support for retired Court of Appeals Justice Corazon Juliano Agrava, chairman of the new fact-finding board investigating the assassination of former Sen. Benigno S. Aquino, Jr.

The Integrated Bar of the Philippines through its president Raul S. Roco said Agrava is one of the few former appellate justices who came from the ranks of trial judges and had enough experience with the rules of evidence from the perspective of actual trial.

Agrava's experience and sensitivity which she manifested as JDRC judge will be invaluable at this time, it said.

Dr. Enrique P. Syquia, president of the Philippine Bar Association, said Agrava should be lauded for accepting a most difficult job.

She will earn the people's gratitude and a unique place in our country's history, Syquia said, if Agrava can lead the commission to a successful conclusion.

The PBA also endorsed the probe body's desire not to be dependent on government personnel or facilities and its choice of former law Dean Andres R. Narvasa as general counsel.

Dr. Arturo Alafriz, president of the Philippine Lawyers' Association, said Agrava can be relied upon for integrity and fairness based on her past judicial record.

Lawyer Rene Saguisag of MABINI said Agrava can count herself lucky since the law profession has a very high regard for her.

Newsman Jose G. Burgos, Jr. said Agrava is an exceptional woman of character and integrity. He said she is truly a public servant with a mind of her own and with a heart filled with compassion and justice.

The Women Lawyers Circle (Wiloci) through its president Bellaflor Angara Castillo said the organization believes Agrava will rise to the challenge with courage.

CSO: 4200/209

REUBEN CANOY, OPPOSITION PAPER EDITOR SUED FOR LIBEL

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 17 Nov 83 p 24

[Article by Beng Ansula]

[Text]

An assemblyman and a tabloid editor were charged with libel yesterday before the Manila city fiscal's office in connection with a news story which imputed corrupt practices to a top official of the Ministry of Justice.

Sued by Francisco L. Santos, assistant chief prosecutor and chairman of the Ministry of Justice's task force on illegal recruitment, were opposition Assemblyman Reuben R. Canoy, publisher of the weekly tabloid Manila Paper, and the tabloid's columnist and editor, Lorenzo M. dela Serna.

In his complaint, Santos referred to a story which appeared on De la Serna's column entitled, "On fiscals and 'grease money'" in the Oct. 30-Nov. 6 issue of the Manila Paper, reporting on his alleged corrupt practices in the performance of his duty.

The supposedly libelous article specifically

touched on the alleged refusal by Santos to sign the approval of a resolution in an estafa and illegal recruitment case by one Alfredo L. Calubag of Dipolog City without the "necessary 'grease money'."

It was alleged on De la Serna's column that the refusal by Santos hindered the expeditious resolution of the case.

Immediately after the release of the article, Santos said, he wrote to the publisher and editor to explain the reported delay in the resolution of the case.

He added that he also requested that his letter be published in full for the sake of fairness, in the succeeding issue of the Manila Paper.

In filing the complaint against the respondents, Santos alleged that up to the present the two refused to give his letter a space on the tabloid to rectify the previous "defamatory and libelous article."

PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

PC BATTALION DISEBANDED--DACOLOD CITY--The 51st PC battalion based in Candoni, Negros Occidental, has been disbanded and replaced by the 7th Infantry battalion, Brig. Gen. Isidoro de Guzman, regional unified command head for Western Visayas, said yesterday. De Guzman said the 7th Infantry Battalion will be assigned to the Cauayan-Hinobaan-Ilog-Candoni-Kabankalan-Sipulay area. (PNA) [Text] [Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 16 Nov 83 p 2]

CSO: 4200/208

CARTOON LAMPOONS MARCOS' U.S. TIES

Bangkok DAILY NEWS in Thai 25 Sep 83 p 3

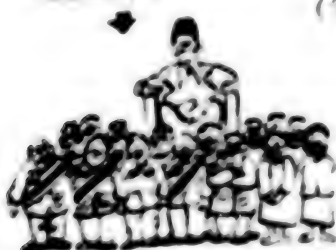
[Cartoon: "Marcos' Statescraft"]

Title: **รัฐศาสตร์ของมาร์กอส**

(1) เมื่อมีบ้านอยู่ใกล้
บ้านของครอบครัวมาร์กอส
มาร์กอสก็พาครอบครัว
ไปอยู่บ้านนั้น



(2) มาร์กอสก็พาครอบครัว
ไปอยู่บ้านนั้น
และเขาก็มีความสุข



(3) มาร์กอสก็พาครอบครัว
ไปอยู่บ้านนั้น
และเขาก็มีความสุข
และเขาก็มีความสุข



(4) มาร์กอสก็พาครอบครัว
ไปอยู่บ้านนั้น
และเขาก็มีความสุข



(6) มาร์กอสก็พาครอบครัว
ไปอยู่บ้านนั้น
และเขาก็มีความสุข



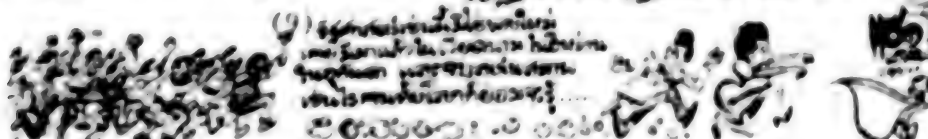
(5) มาร์กอสก็พาครอบครัว
ไปอยู่บ้านนั้น
และเขาก็มีความสุข



(8) มาร์กอสก็พาครอบครัว
ไปอยู่บ้านนั้น
และเขาก็มีความสุข



(9) มาร์กอสก็พาครอบครัว
ไปอยู่บ้านนั้น
และเขาก็มีความสุข



[Text] (1) When you hold the power, you enjoy happiness and peace in luxurious style amidst the public's hunger and exhaustion.

(2) You allocate important posts to your friends and relatives who share your pronouncement.

(3) The Philippines is one of the poorest nations in the world. Resources, rather than being used to ameliorate the situation, are instead given to foreigners who come to shovel them up and take them all away.

(4) You monopolize the nation's economy and keep it all in your own clan. [Signs on the buildings read as follows: right top, Marcos Marketing; left top, Marcos Construction; top center, Marcos Motel; right bottom, Marcos; left bottom, Marcos Coffee; bottom center, Marcos Movie Theater.]

(5) You take your country's sovereignty and you tie it up with a great power. [Flag labeled Philippines.]

(6) You send your unemployed relatives to be rulers and governors.

(7) The mouths and stomachs of your fellow countrymen are a matter which comes second; foreign military bases have to come first.

(8) Then, when true lovers of their country cannot bear it and rise up to protest the actions which are leading the country to utter destruction, you proclaim martial law. You use violence to suppress anyone who thwarts you.

(9) Statecraft of this kind is not a new thing. It existed in Vietnam, in Iran, in Uganda. And of course, everybody in the world knows how they ended up....

12542

OSD: 4201/29

COLUMNIST CRITICIZES AUSTRALIA'S KAMPUCHEA STANCE

Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 22 Oct 83 p 2

[Column by Sunthon Wathi: "Window on the World: ASEAN and Australia"]

[Text] Since the beginning, the policy of the ASEAN group and that of Australia have coincided as one.

As for internal politics, both sides held fast to the principle of democracy as the system of governing a nation. Whoever was less or more free is another story, but [all] could still be considered democracies.

In the field of foreign policy, for ages ASEAN and Australia have joined hands together to resist the communists, with the United States acting as helmsman in the struggle.

In the military sphere, Australia once joined the SEATO alliance, and fought shoulder to shoulder [with the ASEAN countries].

But today is not as happy as days gone by.

The five nations of the ASEAN organization announced in Bangkok last Wednesday that they were putting off the Sidney conference on economic issues with Australia, which was scheduled for this Monday, to an unspecified later date. This was in order to show dissatisfaction with Australia's foreign policy.

Why did ASEAN become dissatisfied?

[The group] has been discontented ever since the Labor government rose to power and Prime Minister Bob Hawke announced that besides ending the resistance to Vietnam, he would aid it economically.

Then he sent Foreign Minister Bill Hayden to cozy up to Nguyen Co Thuan in Hanoi.

That was not enough. When the General Assembly of the United Nations opened, Australia announced that it would abstain from voting for the retention of Prince Sihanouk's coalition government's UN seat.

It (also) would not join ASEAN in submitting a resolution calling on Vietnam to withdraw its army from Cambodia.

Never mind not joining in submitting the resolution; Australia's foreign minister even dirtied his mouth by declaring that Australia did not want to act "like a poodle" waiting for ASEAN's commands.

At this point I think the five ASEAN nations' patience reached its limits.

From this moment on, relations between ASEAN and Australia, which have been based on trade totaling billions and billions, certainly will not be the same.

Whoever is going to call the shots, let it be the old ones!

12/3/79

CSO: 4207/29

DEPUTY SUPREME COMMANDERS PROFILED

Bangkok DAILY NEWS in Thai 26 Sep 83 p 3

[Text] A most industrious, admirable, and praiseworthy matter is the establishment of public relations branches after the floods, even though during the floods I do not know where these bodies went to, [but] when the waters receded, they popped up ready for work. Find out for yourself who works in these bodies, because I don't want to pay them any attention.

In "[khaki] green" circles, the transfers have already begun. Today I am going to introduce the readers of DAILY NEWS SQUARE to the new deputy supreme commander of the Armed Forces, who is named Maj Gen Bunrit Thansanon.

Gen Bunrit Thansanon is a Bangkokian by birth--in Thanon Banthat Thung Sub District--on 23 February 1924, and is the eldest son of Deputy Counselor Santhana and Phit Thansanon. He has eight brothers and sisters in all.

His educational career began at Thepsirin School from grade 1 to grade 10, which he finished in 1937. From there, he leaned toward entering military life, beginning by enrolling in the Military Preparatory Academy, Class 2, the same class as: Maj Gen Annat Damrikan; Air Force Maj Gen Thaklaeo Taksinwon; Lt Gen Chuan Wannarat; Lt Gen Banlang Khammasunthon; and Pol Lt Gen Chulit Pranprachachon. He then completed his education at Army Officers' School in 1942, and at both he scored first place in his class. He studied at Army Staff Officers School, Class 31. As for schooling and observation abroad, he has been to both the United States and many other European countries.

When he finished in 1942, he entered government service as a platoon commander in the 21st Infantry Regiment. From there, he rose to become strategy officer, 21st Infantry Regiment, and later moved to assume the position of strategy and training officer of the 11th Infantry Regiment of the King's Guards. Then he transferred to take over staff branch duties at the Army Intelligence Department. Due to his abilities, he was appointed successively assistant military attaché at the embassies in Australia, New Zealand, and the United States, in that order. He held this position 3 years in each country, and in 1974, the government entrusted him to go as ambassador of Thailand stationed in Tehran, Iran. He remained there only 18 months, and then traveled back to Bangkok to assume duty as commander of the Peacekeeping Center, of the Supreme Commander's Office. At that time, he already

held the rank of lieutenant general. Later, he transferred to become head of the Research Department, until he received the post of army deputy chief of staff for intelligence and strategy. Furthermore, he was director of Joint Exercises in 1982, director of the Logex-26 Joint Exercises between Thailand and the United States. Then, due to all his qualities, including capability and seniority, he received the royal command to assume the position of army deputy supreme commander beginning 1 October of this year.

Having a true diplomat's personality has caused him to be loved and respected by those under his command. Even his sons say of their father, "Father is a well-behaved person." But in work matters, whenever a situation comes up which requires correction or decision, he is likely to hold fast to his principles of correctness and justice. And he is like all those in uniform, namely, their nature is not to be fussy about their food. The deputy commander's favorite food is an omelet with chopped pork, accompanied by hot rice. But if it is this type of food, it must be spicy. Even though he is 58, he still smokes cigarettes and drinks alcohol everyday. As for physical exercise, he plays tennis and golf, as a means to work up a sweat.

He has many responsibilities--because, besides having the post of Army deputy supreme commander, he also is a senator and is on the "Hypc" committee, as well--he tends to come to work early every day, and he returns home after 6 pm every evening.

He married Prasansi Chalyaphan, daughter of Maj Luang Phakphrittikan in 1945, or about 36 [as published] years ago. They have three children, namely: Uthairat Adireksan (Thansanon); Maj Supsan Thansanon, son-in-law of Maj Gen Sorn To Sakhon, and currently an assistant to the head of the civil affairs division, the 4th Army Region; and the youngest, who is getting his degree abroad, is Itthichai Thansanon.

He is a good supreme commander, even though his reputation is one of all work, is not antisocial. Furthermore, [given] his good looks when young, it is hinted that he was terribly charming.

From 1 October, the deputy supreme commander of the Navy will be Admiral Chak Wilson, who came from the post of naval chief of staff. This gentleman is the finest flower of the Navy, in whose ability all naval personnel feel pride, because he is highly skilled in his work but is younger than the commander in chief, Adm Praphat Chantawirat. One of his past accomplishments was being in charge of the parade during the Bangkok Bicentennial last year. His biography is:

Adm Chak Wilson, deputy supreme commander, was born on 26 January 1923. He studied at Samutprakan School until he finished 12th grade. Then, in 1944, he enrolled in the Naval Officers Academy to continue his studies. He became a lieutenant junior grade in 1949; a lieutenant in 1954; lieutenant commander in 1957; and went to naval staff officers school in 1958. Later he was given the rank of commander in 1961; captain in 1964; rear admiral in 1972. He became a vice admiral in 1979, and an admiral in 1981, when he was chief of staff.

He returned twice to the United States, and studied at the Naval Academy and the American Defense College, as well as acting as an observer in the United States. After his first important positions, they are: first officer, Luang Prabang; gunnery officer and acting first officer of the Luang Prabang; staff officer of the Minelayer Division; under secretary of the Navy; assistant chief of staff of strategic services; and naval staff officer. In addition to this, he also worked on many naval activities, and in 1941 received appointment as deputy naval supreme commander this October.

His wife is named Khanittha Saiwong, and he has a single daughter named Kanyarat. He has no sons.

The new deputy Air force supreme commander is Air Marshal Arun Phromthep, who came from assistant to the commander of the Air Force (before that he was Air Force chief of staff). His biography is:

Air Marshal Arun Phromthep was born 4 December 1927. His wife is named Chansri Phromthep, who was born 1 year later than he, that is on 23 July 1928; and they have four children, three sons and one daughter. Each is a good student, like their father, who got the best examination score. All of them, no matter whether it was elementary school or high school. He entered the Army Technical School to continue his education.

Many are persons wondering whether the Army Technical School is different from the Royal Military Academy [RMA]. The answer is that the Army Technical School was separate from the RMA, and it took 5 years to complete. Since its establishment, there were only 11 classes. Later on, it was disbanded. As for the RMA, formerly the curriculum was 3 years, but at present they study both training and practical experience for more than 3 years, and the course of study is quite difficult, like that of the naval, Air Force, and police cadets, because it all comes from the same source, namely the Military Preparatory School.

Air Marshal Arun Phromthep entered Army Science School after graduating from Army Technical School. When he had graduated from both these institutions, he continued at Flight School and Flight Officers School. When he was given the rank of squadron leader at the age of slightly more than 30, he then entered the Air Force College.

Concerning his experience abroad, Air Marshal Arun Phromthep went to study at Air Force Flight School in the United States, and the Flight and Fighter Pilot School of the U.S. Air Force. Then he went to study in England. He studied at Air Force Staff College and observed radar equipment. Finally, he returned back over to the United States to observe infrared and medium equipment. So, he is skilled in every way as an Air Force officer, no matter whether it concerns theory or practice.

At the end, he was once assistant Air Force attaché in Taiwan, and therefore he speaks fluent Mandarin, even though he was there less than 3 years. When returned, he climbed from head of the Strategy Department to assistant chief of staff, becoming deputy chief of staff, chief of staff and deputy supreme commander.

His physique is a little stocky, but he exercises enough by playing golf to keep in shape. He also likes to collect orchids for pleasure, and tries to find some free time to admire his orchids.

In matters of styling his hair, which is white--he does not dye it to make it Indira Gandhi-style according to the popular taste--rather his hair is almost entirely white, naturally white, and he does not dye it black.

12532

CSO: 4207/29

BOOKS CRITICAL OF MONARCHY BANNED FROM UNIVERSITIES

Bangkok SIAM RAT In Thai 21 Oct 83 pp 1, 12

[Text] The Office of University Affairs has named six books to be banned, forbidding all universities to have them in their possession, because their contents analyze negatively the institution of the monarchy and the feudal system.

News reports from university circles revealed to SIAM RAT that the Office of University Affairs sent a letter to the rectors of all universities about 3 weeks ago asking them to collect a total of six history books.

Among the six books ordered picked up and classified as banned, there were books written by Chit Phumisak, So. Thammayot and the Yellow Book, "The Nine Kings of the Chakri Dynasty," the publisher of which police have detained and are prosecuting on the basis of having libeled the king's majesty.

"I understand that they are books which criticize the institution of the monarchy and the feudal system, and therefore, they don't want university students to read them," a professor at one university stated, and added that collecting of the books is equivalent to forbidding universities to have them in their possession, which means even in their libraries.

"But I think there should be freedom in reading. Then students will be able to consider for themselves who is right and who is wrong. And, frankly, these books have been available for some time, and students have already read them all," was that professor's opinion.

As for the Office of University Affairs, SIAM RAT made inquiries of Col Athon Chonhenchop, undersecretary of the office, and received a response from the official who answered the telephone that the office actually had written to all universities, ordering them to collect the above-mentioned books, and that the letter had gone out around the middle of last month.

"As to the reason for this order, I don't know, because it was a sealed letter. So I have no idea, and I myself only had the duty of sending it," the official said.

Concerning the Yellow Book, "The Nine Kings of the Chakri Dynasty," police authorities took into custody Mr Thawan Saengkanchananon, Mr Phongthep Manopattanasaphong, and Mr Saman Khongsukphon on 20 June, the three individuals who together published the aforesaid book, on charges of conspiring together to commit lese majeste.

Later, on 19 October, the military tribunal of Bangkok decided to imprison Mr Thawan and Mr Phongthep for 8 years each, but having received a confession, [the court] reduced it by half, with 4 years apiece remaining. As for Mr Saman, having denied [the charges], he is being prosecuted as a separate case on 21 October.

12532

CSO: 4297/29

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

CHINESE WESTERN MEDICINE SMUGGLING-COUNTERFEITING RING SMASHED

Hanoi TIEN PHONG in Vietnamese 18-24 Oct 83 p 6

[Article by Minh Phuong: "Mysterious Link"]

[Text] It was noontime. Before the gate of Children's Hospital I in Ho Chi Minh City, a lanky, mustached man and two elderly women with heavy makeup were surrounding a young woman.

--What kind of medicine do you want to buy? the lanky man asked.

--My child has hemorrhagic fever so I need to buy a bottle of sea water.

--Which kind do you want to buy: made in France, the U.S.A., Hong Kong or West Germany?

--French or American, anything will do provided it is genuine.

--Well, we can guarantee it. At 8,000 [dong] a bottle, you can have it right away.

The young woman's face turned pale. She exclaimed in a subdued voice:

--My God! How can it be so expensive? The doctor told me it would cost only a few hundred [dong] a bottle....

--Well, you may go and buy Vietnamese-made sea water for your use and let him [the child] die (!), the lanky guy said angrily and he clenched his fists and left.

One of the heavily madeup women tapped the young woman on the shoulder and said smoothly:

--Don't hesitate to buy it, my younger sister. If you are stingy with money, you may lose your child someday!

Her eyes wet with tears, the young woman beckoned the lanky man back. He merely asked bluntly: "Agreed?" and then got on his Honda motorbike and took off at high speed. A few minutes later, he came back and slipped a sea water bottle bearing a U.S. trademark into the young woman's hand. Since she did not have enough money, she pulled a golden ring from her finger and gave it to him.

After examining the jet water bottle which had just been bought by the young woman at the price of one-tenth of a dollar (200), the doctor declared that it was poison! In fact, the bottle with the U.S. label contained merely a kind of turpentine liquid with a sour smell. The young woman then looked for the hospital gate but the lanky guy and both the heavily made-up elderly ladies had disappeared....

People present there gathered around her and inquired about the happening. She said that her name was Pham Thi Van and that she came from Can Tho to Saigon to visit a close relative when unfortunately her child was taken ill with hemorrhagic fever....

Like Mrs Pham Thi Van, countless people had been cheated and many of them nearly lost their lives just because of the "foreign-imported" medicines sold at the open-air market on sidewalks. In August and September 1983, more than 100 people were sent to the Cho Ray hospital for emergency aid after using such kinds of medicine. Noteworthy is the fact that just in August, more than 300 children had to be sent to Children's Hospital 1 for emergency aid [for the same reason]....

Where have Western medicines come from to be thrown into the market to disrupt it and to endanger the life of the people?

The one-story house belonging to Vuong Mau Sinh was in a lane off Ba Hat Street in the 10th Precinct. From outside, it looked shabby. Though it was daytime, it was pitch dark inside. Chairs, tables, beds and wardrobes lay scattered beside piles of incense sticks covered with green mould.... Vuong Mau Sinh was over 50, with a catfishlike head, sagging cheeks and a round, big belly. Everyday, he would sit on a rattan chair, stripped to the waist, waving his paper fan lightly. Vuong Mau Sinh rarely went outdoors and especially never frequented restaurants like other Chinese residents. His family had registered as producer of incense sticks, with a monthly turnover of 5,000 dong. Every month, he paid taxes in full and on schedule and regularly participated in the city people's cell activities. He often said about himself: "I merely work to earn my living but I know nothing about commercial activities! I do not hurt anyone's feelings!" Of his seven children, two had died before; Vuong Mau Tai, 24, was the eldest of the remaining five. Everyday, Vuong Mau Tai would ride his squealing bicycle of the "Phuong Nam" (Phoenix) (鳳南) make, with two rectangular wooden boxes attached to the rear. After filling these boxes with incense sticks, he went out to deliver them to customers everywhere. Such was the outward appearance of Vuong Mau Sinh's family but what went on inside was wrapped in mystery. However, P., a member of the ward security cell, had noticed that Vuong Mau Sinh never received the administration's representatives inside his house whenever the latter called in for some affair. Moreover, sometimes late in the night, a car would suddenly stop in front of his house for about 10 minutes and then speed off. As for Vuong Mau Tai, he continued his daily delivery of incense sticks but everyday on his return home, the two incense boxes were always sold a little less full. P. imparted his suspicions to the communal police organ in the precinct. A plan to watch over Vuong Mau Sinh's family was drawn up and its execution was directly entrusted to V. B.

One day, Vuong Mau Tai was carrying his two boxes of incense sticks and had just passed the Nguyen Tri Phuong six-road intersection when a Honda motorbike hit him from behind in the rear. Vuong Mau Tai was slightly thrown onto the road but one of his two wooden boxes was smashed and the incense sticks spilled on the ground. Scattered among the incense sticks were hundreds of small wrappers containing Western medicines of various kinds. V. H. was the rider of the Honda motorbike which collided with Vuong Mau Tai's bicycle. V. H. immediately stopped, his unit commander, asking him to come to the spot. An examination of both incense stick boxes of Vuong Mau Tai disclosed nearly 1,000 wrappers of Western medicines bearing foreign labels.

Confronted with such clear-cut evidence, Vuong Mau Tai had to admit that he had been delivering Western medicines regularly to his customers.

During a search at Vuong Mau Sinh's house, a thing beyond the imagination of everyone was unexpectedly uncovered.

Under a pile of incense sticks was a cave the entrance of which was made up of four glass bricks which were welded together and which were of the same color as those paving the ground floor. The cave was 2-meters deep and had a area of 3 square meters. It was filled with cases of imported Western medicines. Vuong Mau Sinh had thus used his incense stick trade as a cover-up to deal in imported Western medicines....

--Where did you receive these Western medicines?, V. H. asked Vuong Mau Sinh, who merely shook his head. Vuong Mau Tai replied:

--My father can speak only Cambodian and Chinese but not Vietnamese.

A representative of the city people's cell unexpectedly came in at that moment. He told Vuong Mau Sinh not to pretend any more because he himself had once heard Vuong Mau Sinh speak Vietnamese very fluently. Sinh could no longer shake his catfishlike head. He declared: "I do not know the name of that person. Moreover, there were three or four persons. They came here from Kampuchea in their car with these goods and they told me to sell them on commission!"

Vuong Mau Sinh merely repeated several times this declaration which he had learned by heart.

The economic police officers inferred that the imported Western medicines smuggling line could not have originated in him (Sinh). But where did it take root and who was the promoter? This question had to be answered. There was no hope that Vuong Mau Sinh would reveal the source, for persons who earned their living like Vuong Mau Sinh would be ready to sacrifice their lives to maintain secrecy....

As a "young detective" who had participated in the discovery of some major smuggling cases, V. H. pondered intensely. He proposed to L. T. and his colleagues that they had better temporarily refrain from confiscating the medicines found in Vuong Mau Sinh's house and that it would be wise to secretly watch over his family, especially Vuong Mau Tai. V. H.'s plan was approved.

For 4 days and nights at a stretch, both Vuong Mau Sinh and Vuong Mau Tai did not leave their house and no visitor was seen coming.

In the middle of the 6th night, Vuong Mau Tai opened the door slightly and walked out. After looking back and forth, he took his bicycle and darted out when it was raining heavily. Vuong Mau Tai thus "led" V. H. to the house of an elderly man by the name of Luu Vinh in Khong Lu Street (Hanoi).

Luu Vinh was over 40, of an average stature with a bald head and a fair, greasy complexion. Vinh graduated from the medicine faculty of the Saigon University in 1967. After undergoing a 2-year advanced training in the United States, he returned home and became an internal medicine doctor at Sang Chanh (Chinese) Hospital (in Cholon). His two elder brothers had fled to the United States and were living in Texas. His younger brother--Luu Hao--had returned to China during the so-called "Chinese Refugee's [Exodus] Campaign" and subsequently left China for Hong Kong. Luu Vinh had quit his job at Sang Chanh Hospital a few years ago but his six-member family has been living sumptuously on the gift cases sent him from the United States and Hong Kong....

After Vuong Mau Tai's visit on the previous night, Luu Vinh went to the municipal post office the next morning to send a telegram to Luu Hao in Hong Kong which read as follows: "Uncle Vuong is seriously ill. I am in good health and doing business as usual."

After analyzing Luu Vinh's message, V. H. guessed him to be the direct connection in the shipment of Western medicines from abroad. He would have placed great confidence in Vuong Mau Sinh so that he would continue to "do business as usual" through Vuong Mau Sinh had been unmasked.

According to V. H.'s guess, about 2 weeks later, from Hong Kong Luu Hao sent the following telegram to Luu Vinh: "The gift addressed to you has been shipped. The ship left the port on the...day. Please take delivery at the usual point."

The comrades working at the Saigon port gave V. H. fairly accurate information on the arrival times of and other details about the ships bound from Hong Kong for the Ho Chi Minh City port. In addition, the comrades at the customs office told him that almost all the smuggled goods would be landed over in the vicinity of buoy No 0.... V. H. then decided to lie in ambush in that area prior to the ships' arrival and mooring.

It was mid-September and pouring with rain. Hiding among the leaves of water palm trees, V. H. and two combatants in his own unit sat under cover of a plastic sheet, shrinking with cold and wetness. Meanwhile, they were stung by clouds of mosquitoes. V. H. and his unit lay there without interruption for 4 nights. On the 5th night, at 10 pm, a ship came and moored at buoy No 0. Thanks to the bright electric lights on board, V. H. could see clearly the name and number of the ship which had just arrived from Hong Kong.

That night Vinh's clique did not take delivery of the goods. The next night, at about 2 pm a motorboat landed on the southern shore. After roaming around the ship for a while, the motorboat started up and sailed away in the direction of Thu Thiem. It was very hard for V. H. to trail the motorboat and then two cases of Western medicines which were jam-packed as those received from the post office and which were afterward carried to Lou Vinh's house.

Confronted with such concrete evidence, Lou Vinh was obliged to reveal part of the truth: For several years, he had been receiving cases of merchandise sent from the United States and Hong Kong together with directives from the so-called "Chinese Association" in Texas. Inserted between several cardboard layers of the merchandise cases, these directives instructed Lou Vinh to try and found an "Association of Chinese Residents in Saigon" in order to "help each other make a living and not to forget their fatherland (!)". Lou Vinh had sought out former bourgeois such as Vuong Mau Sinh, Huu Minh and Vuong Tuan Thanh as well as his own close friends and then founded this Association in early 1982. To "raise a fund" for the "Association", in mid-1982, Lou Vinh established a Western medicine smuggling link--an activity suited for his profession as a physician.

This link connected Saigon with Hong Kong and the United States and also with Thailand and China.

From Saigon, Lou Vinh carried out investigations to understand fully the state of affairs concerning each kind of medicines and pharmaceuticals and then used a secret code to send telegrams to Lou Han in Hong Kong. After receiving money from the "Chinese Association in Texas," Lou Han sought medicines and sent them to Lou Vinh. Lou Vinh disposed of these medicines in the black market to make money to buy gold and diamonds which he handed over to Vuong Mau Sinh for transfer by land through Kampuchea to Thailand and China and ultimately into the hands of Lou Han and the "Chinese Association in Texas."

In the past, the Lou Vinh clique received almost all Western medicines through the medium of the post office. After the liberation of Kampuchea, they used a land route leading from Thailand to the Chau Doc border gate in An Giang Province. Finding it difficult to smuggle goods through the post office after the issuance of [government] directive No 151, they got in touch with one villager around the wharf plying between Hong Kong and Singapore and Ho Chi Minh City in order to assure the transfer of goods. Before shipping the goods, Lou Han would send a telegram to Lou Vinh. When the ships approached Hong Kong, the villager would put the medicines into little plastic bags, drop them in the river and make no further signal to Lou Vinh's clique to come and receive the goods...

According to Lou Vinh's statements, about every other month his clique would receive a shipment of 100 to 400 kg of Western medicines of all kinds.

1999: 100–101, 103–104, 106–107, 109–110, 112–113, 115–116, 118–119, 121–122, 124–125, 127–128, 130–131, 133–134, 136–137, 139–140, 142–143, 145–146, 148–149, 151–152, 154–155, 157–158, 160–161, 163–164, 166–167, 169–170, 172–173, 175–176, 178–179, 181–182, 184–185, 187–188, 190–191, 193–194, 196–197, 199–200, 202–203, 205–206, 208–209, 211–212, 214–215, 217–218, 220–221, 223–224, 226–227, 229–230, 232–233, 235–236, 238–239, 241–242, 244–245, 247–248, 250–251, 253–254, 256–257, 259–260, 262–263, 265–266, 268–269, 271–272, 274–275, 277–278, 280–281, 283–284, 286–287, 289–290, 292–293, 295–296, 298–299, 301–302, 304–305, 307–308, 310–311, 313–314, 316–317, 319–320, 322–323, 325–326, 328–329, 331–332, 334–335, 337–338, 340–341, 343–344, 346–347, 349–350, 352–353, 355–356, 358–359, 361–362, 364–365, 367–368, 370–371, 373–374, 376–377, 379–380, 382–383, 385–386, 388–389, 391–392, 394–395, 397–398, 400–401, 403–404, 406–407, 409–410, 412–413, 415–416, 418–419, 421–422, 424–425, 427–428, 430–431, 433–434, 436–437, 439–440, 442–443, 445–446, 448–449, 451–452, 454–455, 457–458, 460–461, 463–464, 466–467, 469–470, 472–473, 475–476, 478–479, 481–482, 484–485, 487–488, 490–491, 493–494, 496–497, 499–500, 502–503, 505–506, 508–509, 511–512, 514–515, 517–518, 520–521, 523–524, 526–527, 529–530, 532–533, 535–536, 538–539, 541–542, 544–545, 547–548, 550–551, 553–554, 556–557, 559–560, 562–563, 565–566, 568–569, 571–572, 574–575, 577–578, 580–581, 583–584, 586–587, 589–590, 592–593, 595–596, 598–599, 601–602, 604–605, 607–608, 610–611, 613–614, 616–617, 619–620, 622–623, 625–626, 628–629, 631–632, 634–635, 637–638, 640–641, 643–644, 646–647, 649–650, 652–653, 655–656, 658–659, 661–662, 664–665, 667–668, 670–671, 673–674, 676–677, 679–680, 682–683, 685–686, 688–689, 691–692, 694–695, 697–698, 700–701, 703–704, 706–707, 709–710, 712–713, 715–716, 718–719, 721–722, 724–725, 727–728, 730–731, 733–734, 736–737, 739–740, 742–743, 745–746, 748–749, 751–752, 754–755, 757–758, 760–761, 763–764, 766–767, 769–770, 772–773, 775–776, 778–779, 781–782, 784–785, 787–788, 790–791, 793–794, 796–797, 799–800, 802–803, 805–806, 808–809, 811–812, 814–815, 817–818, 820–821, 823–824, 826–827, 829–830, 832–833, 835–836, 838–839, 841–842, 844–845, 847–848, 850–851, 853–854, 856–857, 859–860, 862–863, 865–866, 868–869, 871–872, 874–875, 877–878, 880–881, 883–884, 886–887, 889–890, 892–893, 895–896, 898–899, 901–902, 904–905, 907–908, 910–911, 913–914, 916–917, 919–920, 922–923, 925–926, 928–929, 931–932, 934–935, 937–938, 940–941, 943–944, 946–947, 949–950, 952–953, 955–956, 958–959, 961–962, 964–965, 967–968, 970–971, 973–974, 976–977, 979–980, 982–983, 985–986, 988–989, 991–992, 994–995, 997–998, 1000–1001, 1003–1004, 1006–1007, 1009–1010, 1012–1013, 1015–1016, 1018–1019, 1021–1022, 1024–1025, 1027–1028, 1030–1031, 1033–1034, 1036–1037, 1039–1040, 1042–1043, 1045–1046, 1048–1049, 1051–1052, 1054–1055, 1057–1058, 1060–1061, 1063–1064, 1066–1067, 1069–1070, 1072–1073, 1075–1076, 1078–1079, 1081–1082, 1084–1085, 1087–1088, 1090–1091, 1093–1094, 1096–1097, 1099–1100, 1102–1103, 1105–1106, 1108–1109, 1111–1112, 1114–1115, 1117–1118, 1120–1121, 1123–1124, 1126–1127, 1129–1130, 1132–1133, 1135–1136, 1138–1139, 1141–1142, 1144–1145, 1147–1148, 1150–1151, 1153–1154, 1156–1157, 1159–1160, 1162–1163, 1165–1166, 1168–1169, 1171–1172, 1174–1175, 1177–1178, 1180–1181, 1183–1184, 1186–1187, 1189–1190, 1192–1193, 1195–1196, 1198–1199, 1201–1202, 1204–1205, 1207–1208, 1210–1211, 1213–1214, 1216–1217, 1219–1220, 1222–1223, 1225–1226, 1228–1229, 1231–1232, 1234–1235, 1237–1238, 1240–1241, 1243–1244, 1246–1247, 1249–1250, 1252–1253, 1255–1256, 1258–1259, 1261–1262, 1264–1265, 1267–1268, 1270–1271, 1273–1274, 1276–1277, 1279–1280, 1282–1283, 1285–1286, 1288–1289, 1291–1292, 1294–1295, 1297–1298, 1300–1301, 1303–1304, 1306–1307, 1309–1310, 1312–1313, 1315–1316, 1318–1319, 1321–1322, 1324–1325, 1327–1328, 1330–1331, 1333–1334, 1336–1337, 1339–1340, 1342–1343, 1345–1346, 1348–1349, 1351–1352, 1354–1355, 1357–1358, 1360–1361, 1363–1364, 1366–1367, 1369–1370, 1372–1373, 1375–1376, 13

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

SMUGGLERS OF CHINESE DESCENT CAUGHT IN HANOI

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 6 Oct 83 p 4

[Text] With tourist bags on their shoulders, two young girls arrived at the railroad station, accompanied by a man who carried a leather briefcase in his hand. Reckoned by someone, they quickly prepared to leave the station building [for the departure platform].

Ever since these people appeared in the Nam Bu Street, they had been followed by economic policemen of Cua Nam Ward. In order not to lose this opportunity, two economic policemen ran after them and confronted the two girls.

The man with the leather briefcase intended to run away but did not have enough time. At the public security office in Cua Nam Ward, the two girls named Hoang Thi Nga and Nguyen Thi Bich opened their tourist bags, pulled out 5 kgs of precious pharmaceuticals the traffic of which had been prohibited by the state, put them on a table and declared clearly that there were more than 10 kgs of them in total. The name of the man with the leather briefcase was Long Van Xin and his task was to escort the girls. Xin declared that these contraband goods had been bought from Nguyen Thi Lien. After tracking down for 3 consecutive days, public security agents in Cua Nam Ward apprehended nine other persons involved in this smuggling link.

Long Van Xin was a native of Muong Khuong Town and Trinh Van Thuy a native of Van Chan District, Hoang Lien Son Province; both of them were smugglers of Chinese descent; since they did not have their household registration in Hanoi, they resorted to seduction and took wives in Hanoi in order to use their wives' houses as places of contraband dealings. Nguyen Thi Lien was also a native of Hoang Lien Son but had moved to Hanoi to specialize in smuggling. When public security agents called at her house for a search, Mrs Lien hid in a small room on the first floor while her husband came out to talk to the public security agents and while her son attempted to dump contraband goods into a sewer but the public security agents caught him red-handed and even discovered larger amounts of contraband and precious goods belonging to the Chinese reactionaries. One of their accomplices was a driver who had participated in the transportation of contraband goods along the Hanoi-Hoang Lien Son line.

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ABSTRACT

REPORT ON RUBBER PLANTATION DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

Number 10000 000 (Vietnam: 1971. 81 p.)

[Text] A major conference on rubber plantation development was held recently at the Dong Nai Rubber Corporation by the Standing Committee of the Council of Ministers.

The conference was presided over by Vo Van Viet, member of the Party Central Committee and Vice Chairman of the Council of Ministers and Chairman of the State Planning Commission and by Dinh Xuan, member of the Party Central Committee and Vice Chairman of the Council of Ministers.

Attending the conference were leading comrades from the Rubber Plantation General Department and from the various ministries and centrally run committees and sectors concerned as well as chairmen and vice chairmen of administrative committees of the rubber plantation provinces of Dong Nai, Long Be, Tay Ninh, Ba Lai, Gia Lai-Kon Tum, Binh Tri Thien and Nghia Binh and also of Ho Chi Minh City.

Do Van Nghien, member of the Party Central Committee and director of the Rubber Plantation General Department, presented a project on rubber plantation development from the present time to 1975. According to the project, from now to 1975, the rubber sector and the provinces whose land is grown with rubber trees will continue to open new lands and grow rubber trees on 200,000 new hectares. To achieve this goal successfully, the rubber sector and the provinces concerned must firmly adhere to the task guidelines, take firm hold of the land and labor potentials of each locality as well as its material and technical bases and rubber planting possibilities and organize these factors in order to launch a mass movement to exploit the new land areas and utilize the natural resources for the country. Simultaneously with expanding new plantations, special attention must be paid to the need to take care of the rubber plantation workers' life from all points of view and to form an increasingly stable and strong working class in the rubber sector to enable the latter to fulfill its task.

The conference heard a report on the initial experiences in implementing the "joint efforts of the central and local governments of the state and people to grow rubber trees" policy and of the method applied by the Thanh Hoa, Dong Thap and other rubber corporations in organizing and managing the work of opening new lands, growing rubber trees in new areas and extracting and processing latex. The conference unanimously approved the development project of the rubber sector and expressed the determination to achieve the set goal at all costs.

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1971 10/01/71

AFFORESTATION INTENSIFIED THROUGH LAND TRANSFER TO COLLECTIVES, PEOPLE

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 6 Oct 83 pp 1, 4

[Text] VNA--According to a report by the Ministry of Forestry, though the Council of Ministers' decision on stepping up the transfer of land and forests to collectives and the people for tree planting and afforestation purposes has been implemented for 9 months only, the task of transferring land and forests has made and is making new progress in a broad and in-depth sense and has obtained good results.

According to initial statistics, by the end of August, throughout the country there were 15 provinces--namely, Cao Bang, Hoang Lien Son, Son La, Thanh Hoa, Quang Ninh, Binh Tri Thien, Kien Giang, Nghe Tinh, Dac Lac, Dong Nai, Ha Bac, Ha Tuyen, Quang Nam-Da Nang, Nghia Binh and Ha Nam Ninh--which had entrusted 379,674 hectares of land and forests to thousands of cooperatives, production collectives, other collective units and the people for management and business activities. In particular, 9 provinces including Cao Bang, Hoang Lien Son, Ha Tuyen, Quang Nam-Da Nang, Nghia Binh, Thanh Hoa, Son La, Quang Ninh and Binh Tri Thien had allotted 26,354 hectares of land to 39,920 families and 27 agencies and army units to grow "forest gardens." In many areas, land and forest transfer has become an urgent requirement eliciting an enthusiastic response from cadres and the people. After receiving land and forests, the units concerned have started performing production and business activities in accordance with the set guidelines, achieved realistic economic effects and become progressive units in the field of forestry production and business according to the comprehensive and combined agroforestry enterprise formula. Collective units and districts which have carried out these activities skillfully include the cooperatives of Yen Lap (Ha Tuyen), Tieu Son (Vinh Phu), Tan Moc (Ha Bac) and Tan Lap (Long An); the districts of Chiem Hoa (Ha Tuyen), Doan Hung (Vinh Phu), Dien Chau (Nghe Tinh), Luc Nam (Ha Bac), Thang Binh (Quang Nam-Da Nang), Tri Ton (An Giang) and Long Phu (Hau Giang); and the state farms of Ap Bac (Tien Giang), the army state farm in Dong Thap and the 42th Regiment (Military Region 1)....

The policy of transferring land and forests under four forms--"entrusting, allotment, contracting out and lending"--, of broadening joint business ventures among various regions and economic components and especially of allotting lands to the people to grow "forest gardens" has had the effect of encouraging the state-operated sector, cooperative collectives, production

collectives, state agencies, schools, enterprises, army units and the people to participate in these activities. In particular, the allotment of land to the people to grow "forest gardens" had been developed; in many regions, it has grown into a movement and has met the legitimate demand of the masses not only in basic units but also on the district scale. Chiem Hoa District (Ha Tuyen) has basically completed the entrusting of land and forests including the allotment of land to the people to grow "forest gardens." The entire district (except Chiem Hoa Town) has allotted 3,846 of land to 9,437 families representing 94 percent of the total number of households in the district (and including 1,045 nonagricultural families and 7,392 agricultural ones) for the purpose of growing "forest gardens."

Together with the levels and sectors concerned, the forestry sector is making a review of the implementation of the Council of Ministers' decision, assessing correctly the tasks done and the newly emerging contradictions requiring solution, doing research and proposing a number of new policies and measures to the Council of Ministers for consideration and supplementation with a view to inducing both the state-operated and collective sectors and the people to continue to carry out the land and forest transfer more satisfactorily in the near future.

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